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#### REVIEW OF NEW BOOKS.

Oriental Historical Manuscripts in the Tamil Language; Translated, with Annotations, by William Taylor, Missionary. With Appendix. 2 vols. 4to. Madras, 1835.

THE attention of the world has been more and more directed of late towards the east, not only in a commercial, but literary point of view; and the work before us, though marked by omisthe work before us, though marked by balls-sions, and full of imperfections, errors, super-ficialities, mistaken facts, and untenable infer-ences; though ill-judged, ill-digested, ill-arearnestness, and so much of honesty in spirit; such numerous slight but important facts therein "like pearls at random strung;" such minute and anxious inquiries; and such candidly avowed very fault of hastiness.

The Tamil is the language of the kingdom of Madura, the southern extremity of the peninsula of Hindustan, called of old, Pandiya-mandalam by the natives — the Pandionisregio of Ptolemy. It was founded, our author concludes, from his MSS. and other calculations, 1500 B.C.; but, strangely enough, these calculations occur only at the 135th page of the first volume: whilst, in introducing the reader to his subject, at the beginning of the book, he designedly reverses the order of history, by a slight sketch of two pages, up to A.D. 1323. Nothing can be more irregular or unsatis-factory than this, "his best mode of proceeding," and the dozen following lines, fully pre-pare us for being, as we are, left in the dark 1000 years B.C. in the fabulous period, where this "history made uneasy" stops. We must, however, in justice, notice a correction of Robertson and Colonel Wilford, in a passage of Pliny, who infers that the ambassador from Taprobana to Rome, in the time of Claudius, meant by the Seres, with whom his countrymen traded, the Chinese. "The Hindus," says our author, "usually called China, Sina-desam, and never Sera-desam, Sera being the name of one of the Madura tribes."

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Our author notices the brevity of his materials; but the same brevity exists, he observes, in the ancient records of every nation. We doubt not that their writers set down all they knew with certainty, or at least all that they deemed the curiosity of future generations would require. They could not, in truth, calculate

before determining on the true value and validity of that little. In all Hindu records there is much absurdity. Ex. gr.

The European reader may be glad to find a new measure of time, when watches and clocks fail, from the introductory section. "The time of winking the eye is one moment;" and this, multiplied successively by 15, 30, 30, and 30 (intervening terms), is equal to 1 day, i. e. we guess, 405,000 winks: we may have nodded in calculating, but the experiment is easy. Again, 360 years of men, by the same reckonranged, teeming with irrelevance,—now doubting how far a Christian missionary may years of men, make the bright half of Bramah's ng now iar a Christian missionary may proceed beyond his "one book" for general apurposes,— and now, making the experiment in earnest, and against a particular writer, in a style that shews his opinions of civility and civilisation are at best questionable;—yet, with all this, containing so much of labour and carrestness, and so much of because it is an analysis of the second o and "diversions," as Mr. Taylor renders the Tamil word, which we should, without a pun, call pastimes. These are of a mixed character; as, calling forth the Ganges, drying up errors of judgment,—that we are content to the sea, dancing on one leg, giving an exhaust-travel on his own way with the worthy missionary, and perhaps like him better for his ing sacred meditations, transforming horses to jackals, and vice versü; carrying mud, imparting spiritual knowledge, giving instruction to the little black bird, giving milk to young pigs, and making the young pigs ministers of state! In this last godlike act, Mr. Taylor seriously declares he does not perceive any wisdom.

The acts of the kings are much of the same cast: one of them "gave some of his own villages for the purpose of establishing the ceremony of putting the god and goddess to bed, and rocking them in a cradle at midnight." Another, having offended a Brahmin, by way of atonement, "set out, without state, not even walking, but passing over the intervening distance, by rolling over his body on the ground." The missionary relates hereupon, that he himself once saw, near Madura, the same ceremony performed by a Sudra, and that a professor of the art (probably the same person), "actually supported himself by performing this penance, as a proxy for others."
We find, in this farrage of absurdities, some

slight coincidences to the Greek mythos. The god slaying the serpent; a mountain used for a weapon, in gigantic warfare; metamorphoses for licentious objects; contests of music with mortals, &c.; but, if the Greeks really re-tained and embellished some oriental fables, we have a deep debt of gratitude to pay them for what they must have rejected.

Whatever may have been the merits of some, and those probably the earlier Brahmins, upon certain points, we cannot but feel abhorrence require. They could not, in truth, calculate that the traces of the living should pass so soon into dust, and their very existence become a question to their own posterity. The brevity of the narrative, therefore, is in favour of authenticity; but, however we might feel disposed to admit this, and even frequently to be grateful for conciseness, we must remember little has as yet appeared from these native sources; and we should require good evidence at the whole system, as concealing knowledge

named in Hebrew.\* It is clear that the later Brahmins have carried this principle of concealment to the highest point of abuse in every possible shape. The constitution, and, still more, the conflicting passions and interests of the Grecian states, prevented similar results to them from the adopted system, by confining the priests within certain limits, while war and conquest, as well as commerce, excited, from the earliest periods, the highest aims of the general mind. The priests, however able, and however vicious, could never, therefore, obtain that mastery which their brethren exercised in the east; where, if we are to believe our author, the native princes were unaddicted, in the earliest ages, to war; and where, consequently, the priesthood (who, we suspect from the name, overpowered the Cshatrya, or military class) had ample leisure to disseminate their atrocious had ample leisure to disseminate their accounts doctrines. The subject is old, yet deserves repeatedly dwelling upon, for other purposes than merely abolition, as we trust hereafter to render it historically important: meantime, we must observe, that the same horrors and the same presumption characterise the class in every narrative of every part of the country they cursed with their presence and sway. Thus we find in these MSS. incest and parricide, in Brahmins, absolved by bathing and giving cows grass; and good sovereigns annually giving jewels to holy shrines, whence they were regularly stolen, without inquiry on the giver's part; while the smallest omission of a rite, however trifling, such as taking the betel, to chew, with the left hand, by in-advertence, could only be expiated in the other classes, of whatever rank the parties, by the most costly presents to the Brahmins. A population of fishermen, destitute of these privileged guides, selected some from their own class; and, though the latter appear to have acted wisely in their office, the privileged sect overran the province, and degraded these unfortunates to the class of Sudra, or infamous, which, it seems, they are accounted to this A circumstance we do not recollect to have seen before, may be quoted here. "A pilgrimage to Benares was, and perhaps is, a frequent custom." These generally would be undertaken by the wealthy; and "we reflect," says our author, "on the possibility of col-lusion between collateral relatives and Brahmins, and between Brahmins of different temples, by means of the sacred language, unknown to the vulgar; so that Pausanian letters, sealing the pilgrim's fate, might be carried by himself. The writer of these re-marks was told by Dr. Young, who accompanied Bishop Turner to Madras, that, from personal observation, he had no manner of doubt of Benares being a great slaughterhouse, or that numerous lives of pilgrims were every year sacrificed by the Brahmins, in order to year sacrinced by the Brahmins, in order to get at their property." He adds, "A slow reception may be possibly given to such an opinion; but how fatal pilgrimages often are to pilgrims, needs not, at this time of day, any fuller exposure." Those who have witnessed the immense crowds, amply verifying, and exceeding, Bishop Heber's description, that choke " See Spanheim.

that city of shrines to a degree utterly incon-ceivable in Europe, may well believe the statement, even if heard for a first time, which is not the case. An infinity of facts collected and narrated by a relative of our own, long resident there, place the matter beyond doubt, and call loudly for the intervention of government.

In these MSS. the northern mythology, no less than the Greek, finds a prototype; the great serpent recalling that of Midgard, and the insatiable dwarf the tale of Thor and the Giant. If any sense can be made out of such materials, we would suggest one solution of our author's, viz., that the prince who found the precious philosopher's stone, and fixed his residence near it, because it was immovable, concealed the discovery of the diamond mines. We would also offer, for whatever it might be worth, an elucidation of the mania for alchemy; derived, like all our wisdom, and most of our folly, from the East. A poor woman, anxious to make a statue of gold to Siva, is directed to melt all the metal vessels she possessed. They who are familiar with "Birmingham ware," a mixture of sweepings from all metals, will not be surprised to learn that gold (or a gold colour) was produced. Vulgar ignorance would ratify the miracle, and cupidity believe, and

essay transmutation.

We turn now to some considerations on the creation, which, however misplaced and in-genious, are not orthodox. We are, indeed, surprised to find a Christian minister admitting the translation of the second verse in Genesis, as possibly correct, thus — "A strong wind as possibly correct, thus — "A strong wind passed over the surface of the deep." We freely admit that the יח אלהים might likewise mean the wind of God, or the strong wind; the term אלהים, or, of God, being also employed for magnitude or might, in the Hebrew, as "the mountains of God," "the cedars of God," &c.; and its equivalent is used in Arabic to this day, to signify, not merely might, but heavenly, in our enlarged sense of the term. heavenly, in our enlarged sense of the term. The spirit of God, or breath of God, is, in the former sense, the Brimh of Hindustan, and the Intelligence of the Desatoor; creative, in the second, as the 2070s; represented by the Zend Avesta as Ohnover, or the Word, produced by Ormuzd; evidently, by all, Essential Deity Granting, therefore, that mighty wind is a correct rendering of the first words, yet how can we agree, or how could Mr. Taylor, to represent passed over. It may be truly rendered by that which acts efficiently, but not, we con-tend, by locomotiveness here; the root distinctly negatives such a version; and it must be taken in combination with by, which, even if to be read as along, it is only in the sense of expansion, gently spreading out. The sense in Hebrew, ever depending on the com-bination and collocation more than in any other language we have met with, gives us rather the idea of operating powerfully by im-pregnation; precisely the brooding of Milton; it is thus the Narrayana, or existing essence of the Brahmins; nor can we consent either to deriving it from the Tamil, nor to the motive sense given of this Tamil derivation itself. The English "moved upon," and not "over," is the exact Hebrew meaning. We dwell upon this passage the more, since, as is evident from our preceding remarks, it is the first essential de-

- 3 وبادي خدايي وزيده شوا ابر روي is the Persian version of Jacob Tassosi,

parture of the Orientals from the Christian eceptation, and the source of their errors.

If we differ thus from Mr. Taylor, we must differ from him still more in his appreciation of Sir William Jones. With every due respect for the great and varied attainments of the latter, we strongly question his profundity on many points. In his Hindu hymns, as in all his poetical versions that ever fell to our lot to examine, we do not hesitate to declare him systematically unfaithful to his originals, whom he resembles far less than Pope does Homer. To call them translations is an insult to the originals, to learning, and to literature. has "painted" even the Persian "lily."

We are sorry we cannot pay a higher compliment to our author's poetry, though we arrive at its Castalian springs, after a long and dry discussion; which, curious in parts though it may be, is yet strangely introduced, since the writer, though so near his presumed spot of Ararat, can add nothing to our knowledge by geology from thence; nor by geo-graphy, to the locality of Eden. If the Phrat is Euphrates, and Hiddekel is the Degila or Tigris, we may concede the Phasis as the Pison of Scripture; the rather, if it flows through Havilah, the probable land of the brother of Ophir, of the race of Shem, who seems, by some, to have been strangely confounded with Havilah, the descendant of Ham, as African. But then the Araxes, or else the Gozan Kizzil-Ozien (the golden river), both fierce streams, marked in ancient geo-graphy south of the Kur, or Kera, and not this last river, must be the fourth. Confessedly no existing locality marks the category of Eden, with "a river that went out to water the garden, and from thence parted and became into four heads," or channels, as it may be equally rendered. We agree with Mr. Taylor that the deluge was little likely to change the sources or channels of rivers in a year; but from the Creation to the Flood was a rather longer period, by his own account; and we may, with some writers, conclude, in despite of Rennell, that the currents of the Euphrates and Hiddekel (Tigris), bore down sufficient earth in the interval to alter the face of the country altogether. An ample period, if we may judge by the Sone and Ganges, whose confluence has, within memory, created a tract large enough for a garden. That of Eden, Mr. Taylor tells us, with illjudged facetiousness, or petulance, "was not a modern kitchen-garden!" The Havilah of some geographers, placed near the Persian Gulf, might surely claim some notice from our author in this inquiry; if the bdellium is pearl, the products are not dissimilar.

We must pause for a moment to remark that the mantra, or charm, of five mystic letters, referring to the five senses, and the five elements, of which æther is one, bears a singular affinity to the Chaldee אלהים, powers or demons, also angels; and that the Jews combined these five letters as Elohim, or universal Deity, while the Chinese, by the number five, understand the principle of Nature. The above mantra is, probably, a Chaldaic tradition of the Brah-

From the same source, we know, is derived the Indian tradition of the deluge; the preserving principle being incarnate in the fish, or Vishnu, by whose maya "the ship, or ark, is said to be formed." Mr. Taylor throws incidental light on this Hindu narrative, by observing, that apart from the Vedantists, the word mayar denotes miraculous agency." Thus, the latter do only what is then, casting aside the allegory of the fish, adapted to vulgar comprehensions, the Indian writings make us live well in it."

affirm no more than that the ark was supplied by the agency of Deity. With regard to the maya itself, Mr. Taylor justly affirms, that "this word does not always signify illusion." certainly did not, in the original and proper sense, but rather perception, impression, or, if we may use the term, a pictured, living representation: he neglects to explain that the sense of illusion came later, with the refined Vedanti system, and is, therefore, comparatively mo.

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The discussion regarding Ararat, as the Himalayan, and not an Armenian, mountain, is one of the singular instances of "our missionary's" mismanagement of argument; but we must defer further remarks for here.

Beiträge zur neneren Geschichte aus den Bri. tischen Museum und Reichsarchive. Friedrich von Raumer. 2 band. Leipzig. 1836.

Contributions to Modern History from the British Museum, &c. By Frederic von Raumer. 2 vols. 12mo.

WE congratulate Mr. Von Raumer on the ap. pearance of these two very interesting volumes. They will form a very important addition to our historical stores. He has made a very judicious selection from the immense mass of materials which lay before him; materials hitherto almost entirely unused. His first volume is devoted to the history of the two queens, Elizabeth, and Mary Stuart; his second to the life and times of Frederic the Great of Prussia. Upon the first subject, which is one of peculiar interest to us, the professor has collected much very curious and important information, throwing very considerable light on several very obscure points. We shall present our readers with some specimens, reserving a fuller consideration for a future occasion, as we are happy to observe that the originals are announced to appear very shortly.

Mr. Von Raumer traces the history of the

two queens up from almost their infancy, remarking that it is not easy to understand their future destiny without doing so.

" I have remarked in my ' History of Europe,' that the latter destiny of the queens, Elizabeth and Mary, are essentially connected with their earlier education and development. Letters written by Mary in early youth to her mother, and other relatives, are too unimportant to be cited; on the other hand, some of Elizabeth's, written prior to her accession to the crown, appear worthy of being presented

Mr. Von Raumer then gives one written by the latter on the occasion of the Protector Somerset informing her that her old friend and instructress, Catherine Ashley, was to be removed from her. Not having the queen's original English before us, we shall, as well as we can, retranslate from our author's German translation, not doubting but her majesty's style must suffer very materially from such a double distillation. The original is in the Lansdowne collection.

"'I must," says the queen, "'take care of my instructress first, because she has been so long a time, so many years, with me, and given herself so much trouble to imbue me with knowledge and virtue. For this reason, says St. Gregory, we are more indebted to those who bring us up well than to our parents. For the latter do only what is natural: they bring us into the world; but the others endeavour to

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The whole letter breathes the most kindly feeling towards her friend, and throws some light on the matrimonial plans which were sketched for Elizabeth, even so early, by the Protector, in favour of his brother the Admiral. We shall now turn to her unfortunate sister

"The earlier acts of Queen Mary explain the conduct of the Scots and Queen Elizabeth; and he who recollects the early education of the former, and the seductive and immoral court of Catharine de Medicis, is more a friend, or rather an impartial judge, of the unhappy queen, than he who would surround her by false lustre of romance, against which historical truth stands forth with a deeper die."

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Randolph writes to Cecil as follows :-"I assure you, the voice of one man can call forth more life in us in one hour, than five hundred trumpets constantly sounding in our ears. Mr. Knox spoke with the queen last Thursday. He knocked so hard at her heart, that he brought her to tears; but one can weep with rage as well as sorrow. At a banquet, a boy of six years of age was presented to the queen. He came as it were from heaven, out of a ball, and presented her with the Bible, Psalter, and keys. In other pageants, they represented the terrible judgments of God against idolatry, the destruction of the band of Kora, Dathan, and Abiram. They wished to exhibit a priest, who was to

have been burnt at the elevation of the host. Huntley, however, prevented this."

Thus early did the hostility of the Scots to their queen's religion manifest itself. "On the eighth," continues Randolph, " the Earl of Argyle and the Lord James (Mary's halfbrother), so disturbed the queen at mass, that some priests and other persons left their places with broken heads and bloody noses. This was a joke to some, but it caused others to shed tears. It has been questioned, whether the queen, being an idolatress, should be obeyed in all civil and public transactions? I consider it a wonderful sign of God's wisdom, that he has not given this unruly, obstinate, and troublesome, more substance and power than they have, else they would run wild."

We shall, for the present, conclude with a specimen of Mary's poetical talents. It is ap-parently addressed to Elizabeth: it is both in Italian and French.

" Al pensier che mi nuoche insieme e giova Al pensier che mi nuoche insieme e giov Amaro e dolce al mio cuor cangla spesso. E fra tema e speranza lo tien si oppresso Che la quieta pace unque no' trova. Pero se questa carta a voi rinova Il bed desio di vedervi li me impresso Cio fa il gran affanno che in se stesso Ho non potendo giamai da se far prova. Ho veduto talor vicino al porto Rispinger nave in mar contrario vento E nel maggior seren turbarsi il ciclo. Così sorella cara temo e pavento Non gia per voi ma quante volte on gia per voi ma quante volte torto rompe fortuna un bel ordito velo.

Un seul penser qui me profitte, et nuit Amer et doulx change en mon coeur sans cesse, Entre le doubte et l'espère il m'opprese Tant que la paix et le repos me quit. Tant que la paix et le repos me fuit. Dont, chere sour, si cette carte suit L'affection de vous veoir qui me presse, Si promptement l'effet ne s'en ensuite, J'ai vu la nef relacher par contrainte En haulte mer proche d'entrer au porte, L'est le seroin se convertir en trouble; Ainsi je suis en souçi et en crainte, Non pas de vous, mais quantesfois à tort Fortune rompt voile et cordage double."

We shall return to these very interesting volumes, and present our readers with some very curious particulars relating to the conduct of Chatelar, and the murders of Rizzio and

(To be continued.)

The Mountain Decameron. By Joseph Downes. 3 vols. 8vo. London, 1836. R. Bentley.

THE author of the Mountain Decameron, with strong feelings and aspirations, has lived, perhaps, too little in the world, and knows too little of life and of his kind to have a due check upon the outbursts of his heart or fancy. recluse naturally resolves all into self. He is not aware that judgment, difference of taste, and experience (experience not so much the enemy as the guide to genius) often by opposing crude or incorrect notions, foster mediocrity into excellence: on the contrary, he thinks every objection a crushing weight upon the efforts of the emulous writer. This is a grand mistake. Byron would never have risen to the height he did, had it not been for the Edinburgh Review. Had he been bepraised and flattered, he would have become a lazy titled lady's lapdog; and, probably, been distinguished for the warmest verses in an Album, but he never would have penned "Childe Harold," or even 66 Beppo."

Before we proceed further, we may notice that (First Day, vol. I.) the author refers to an old offence, as it appears, of the *Literary Gazette*, when he had published a volume of poetry. "Shall I tell you (he says, in his fictitious character) of a little publishing adventure of a former friend of mine many years ago? Being muse-bitten, moreover, passionately longing to have a female child (no such wicked or preposterous a desire, one might have thought) and disappointed by the death of one, does he but clap in, with some wild obscure poetry he happened to print, I could hardly say publish, a good while after - a little lament over this blighted hope. There was certainly nothing absurd in its few stanzas, whatever there might be in the act of publishing them. The Blackwood was gracious enough, with much condemnation, to say of the whole, that it exhibited 'great power of thought and feeling.' A London weekly critical affair, controverting the northern potentate's wisdom in its favour, though he 'kingly did but nod'selected (as if there was no other nonsense in the volume!) a few stanzas embodying a Father's Grief, and grew most droll and facetious over a bleeding heart and a dead infant! with equal elegance and Christian feeling, finished off one of the stanzas half quoted, with a rhyme of the feeling critic's own-'Fiddle de dum de dee !!!' Now, wholly waiving the question as to the justice of the critical judgment, what must be the moral or critical public taste of the times, wherein an emotion (however excessive) so innocent, so grave, so disarming to even just severity, as a father's mourning, could be seized

on as a vehicle for venomous waggery?"

And he adds, "I mention this only to shew that the gentle Literary Garreteer had no moral stimulus to stir his bile. Yet this was one of the oracles of public taste!"

As we do not quarrel with the dead, and as little as possible with the living, we shall only observe upon this quotation, that we could possess no venom against an unknown writer; and that the whole tenour of our literary career is a lasting proof of our love to encourage, not to depress, aspiring talent. We consider it unfor-tunate that "The Father's Grief" should have been founded, if founded, on reality; but we have yet to learn how an "oracle of public taste" can be truly oracle around to among the thousand miscellaneous compositions he is obliged to read, which are imaginary, and

allow that we do not pretend to this super-

human sagacity. But, verbum sat.
We find Mr. Downes, with all the fervour of an imaginative author, very defective in manner, and wild and rambling in construction. His best and most original parts, are pictures of the Welsh out-of-the-way places, with their customs and traditions, where, we presume he has passed the chief of his days. As a sample,

we copy the account given by "a gentleman."
"A gentleman who lived a little before the time of this dark superstition becoming obsolete, gives us this brief account of what is believed to have been the last 'Sin-Eater of Wales.' 'I got lost,' says he, ' near nightfall, after be-ing landed by the ferry-boat from the Aber of Dovey, on the Cardiganshire side of that estu-ary. A black turbary of great extent divided me from the road. I was to gain that between Penyboat village and Machyulleth town. I was cautioned to ride far round this pitchy morass, for no horse ever ventured among the peat-pits\_the whole being a quaking morass. In truth, its look was enough, under a black evening, to keep me off, even without peril of being swallowed, man and horse. It forms a great brown-black triangle of land, without a tree, or any vegetation but patches of gorse. Yet the piles of mawn (all fetched away by persons on foot) diversified the dismalness with a sort of low walls, and between was gleaming of some water, from the many holes whence it is dug. Till the moon went down, which lit me a space, I could just distinguish these dismal pools and cuts like canals, by its glim-mer. I never saw aught so dismal in my own country as this great turbary of hollow ground looked, a huge green-roofed pit, the pitchy mud thus betraying itself every where, as the large moon, looking red as blood in a foul fog stagnating all over it, took leave of it, and its brown grew browner, and that browner, black, till the last to be seen was one horrid blackness, where nothing lived, and nothing was heard but the low roar of the sea washing it on two sides, like the hum of some great city. That deep-voiced murmur of the sea so That deep-voiced murmur of the sea so sounding like a thousand voices, made it more shocking to look upon the space between, as dumb as a great grave. More than once I thought a light glimmered in the very midst; but I took it for the jack-a-lantern, if not something worse, for I had heard of wreckers, and there had been a shipwreck, the weather wild, and even the day had been hardly light. At last, thanks to my stars, the good hard rock of a rough road rung to my horse's hoof, and I saw a pleasant cottage taper instead of that will-o'-wisp of the black bog, which was as ghastly as the Canwyll Corph, the corpse-candle, carried by a figure of one (as these Welsh say) whose own burial will soon take place, in the spot it vanishes at. The house was on a high point and turn of road, overlooking all those many acres of hollow ground. Just as I came up, hoping lodging, I heard sounds of wailing within, and soon a woman came out into the dead night, late as it was, and cried a name to the top pitch of her wild voice, that seemed one I had heard weeping indoors. When I looked in, there lay a corpse of a man, with a plate of salt holding a bit of bread, placed on its breast. The woman was shouting to the Sin-Eater to come and do his office; that is, to eat the bread, lay his hand on the dead breast, place the dead man's on his own, after making a sign of the cross, and then praying for a transfer of whatever pains which plain matter of fact. High as we hold or penances in fire or 'thick-ribbed ice,' or ourselves as oracles of public taste, we must molten lead, or what beside monastic belief

attached to the perdition of tormented souls, from that pardoned dead man for ever, to him that more than dead alive, himself in his death of soul, but not of its pains, for ever and for This is the traveller's account of this incident. He had the curiosity to wait, and saw at last the motion of what seemed a foggy meteor moving toward their standing point. After waiting long, he caught a far-out shout in reply to the woman's long unanswered, till she kindled on the high road's point, the straw of her husband's late bed - the usual signal of a death in the house. The Sin-Eater, he was told, lived alone in a hovel made of seawreck, and nails of such, between sea-marsh and that dim bog, where few could approach by day, none dared by night; whether for the footing, or the great fear, or, at least, awe, which all felt of that recluse. One curious belief was current, that he was no other than 'The Wandering Jew,' the man who spit on his Saviour, and cannot die, that fable familiar to so many countries. Now, as this traveller and the wretched being he stood in the dark and wind expecting, will be hereafter returned to, to avoid double description, this sketch may conclude, whose only purpose was to explain the character of a Sin-Eater of Wales, and the habits of one."

The Danube, from Ulm to Vienna; forming a Complete Guide from the highest Navigable Point, to the Capital of Austria, with Historical and Legendary Anecdotes, and a Synoptical Table of the Towns, Villages, Castles, Monasteries, &c. arranged according to their Position on the Banks of the River. By J. R. Planché, F.S.A. 12mo. pp. 232. London, 1836. Porter and Wright; Simpkin, Marshall, and Co.

WHEN Mr. Planche's Danube originally appeared, it was upon an almost new and unbroken territory; and we rejoiced to find in it, besides the useful and guiding information of the Itinerarist, those embellishments of fancy and romance, with which the author knew so well to add the dulce to the utile. In the present edition, which is, indeed, so entirely recast, rewritten, and largely added to, as to merit the name of a new work, Mr. Planché has incorporated all the matter which completes a Guide through the interesting country of this splendid river, with its castled rocks and legend-stored banks; and to the numerous travellers who are now daily leaving our shores to "see foreign parts," such a performance will be of very great value. It is true that droves of our locomotive compatriots have only time to brush up the Rhine and down again; but others, more adventurous, with more command of time, and desirous to inspect regions more remote, will find a trip on the Danube an exceedingly pleasing and delightful relaxation. Let them, then, take Plancher little book in their pockets, and they will not only be gratified with the things and sights he describes, but add an enjoyment thereto in perusing the interesting events and traditions which he has coupled with them. We copy one illustration : -

"The towers of the beautiful Benedictine Kloster of the Holy Cross at Donauwörth are seen for a long while in the distance, before the impatient traveller, who has re-embarked, and ed the mouths of the Glott, the Zuzam, and the Wernitz, which, through a score of unimportant villages, wind their way to the Danube, lands at the bridge of the third post town from Ulm, and hastens to pay his tribute of ad-miration to the venerable pile which rose under

the thirteenth century, and gaze with melancholy interest on the grave of the ill-fated Maria of Brabant, duchess of Bavaria, who fell a victim to the unfounded jealousy of her husband, Louis V. There is more than one version of her hapless story. The following is according to the chronicle of Esiah Wipacher. In the court of Duke Louis of Bavaria, was a young, noble, and valiant knight, celebrated for his skill in all the accomplishments of that chivalric age, and consequently a great favourite with both duke and duchess. One day that he was playing at chess with the latter, he asked her to grant him a boon, and was answered that, providing it might be conceded without affecting her honour, there was little doubt of his obtaining any thing he might desire. Upon this, he prayed the duchess, as an especial mark of her favour, to use towards him in conversation that more familiar mode of expression, which in French is understood by 'Tutoyer, and in Germany is called 'Dutzen,' namely, the use of the personal pronoun 'thou' instead of 'you.' The duchess, however, considering that her so addressing him might be misconstrued by others, and a degree of intimacy inferred from it detrimental to her reputation, made him no reply, and notwithstanding he repeatedly and earnestly urged his request, she still remained silent. Some time afterwards, Louis took arms against the Bishop of Augs burg, and carried fire and sword into the heart of the territories of that prelate. The knight, of whom we spake, followed, of course, his sovereign to the field, and acquired fresh renown beneath his banner. Louis, who loved his beautiful Maria with a passion almost amounting to madness, had left her in charge of her confessor, a wily monk, and the secret friend and spy of the Bishop of Augsburg. This traitor, working on the fears of the unsuspecting lady, persuaded her to write to the duke, urging his return from the army, and his leaving the prosecution of the war to those whose lives were less dear to her. Louis, however, was not to be drawn from the path of honour, even by his excessive love, and replied to her most affectionately, but in the negative. The cunning priest then bethought him of the young knight, and suggested to the duchess that he might have sufficient influence over the duke to induce him to return. The ill-starred lady upon this wrote to Count Heinrich von Hirscheu, for such appears to have been his name, praying him, by the love and service that he bore her, to use all means in his power to withdraw the duke from the siege of Frideberg, and promising, on her part, that if he succeeded in so doing, she would 'grant him the favour he had so long and so earnestly desired.' messenger was strictly charged to deliver this epistle to the count himself, and unseen by the duke. Unhappily, on the bearer's arrival at the camp, the count was absent on an expedition, and the letter fell into the duke's hands. He recognised the writing of the duchess - his jealous nature took fire - he tore open the seal, and the contents of the paper appeared to conthrew himself on his horse, galloped like a maniac to Donauwörth, rushed into the chamber of the duchess, dragged her forth by her hair, loaded her with reproaches, and, in spite of her shrieks for mercy, and protestations of The seneschal of the castle underwent the same over the battlements. The dreadful tragedy a matter of doubt. We think it might have

the auspices of the Emperor Frederick II., in was scarcely completed, when the innocence of the unhappy Maria was made manifest, and the wretched Louis was so overwhelmed with horror and remorse, that, although only 27 years old, his hair became white ' in a single night,' and the Kloster of Fürstenfeld-brüch is a monument of his penitence."

> The Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on the Management, Condition, and Affairs of the British Mu-

seum, &c.
GREAT has been the outcry of late against the present condition and management of our national museum. On the one hand, the force of ridicule and misrepresentation has been employed to convince the public that it is at once a disgrace to the nation, and the laughing-stock of foreigners. And this species of argument has occasionally given way to offensive personal attacks upon the trustees or the officers to whose care it is more directly confided. We need scarcely say that it is not our intention to join in the halloo. The matter has been investigated by a committee of the House of Commons; the evidence taken during last ses. sion is before the public: and, as this volume developes the principal objections against the Museum, and the plans proposed for its reform, we shall offer a few general observations upon both.

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We confess, that when we consider the recent period at which the British Museum was founded, and the small sums hitherto devoted to its support, our surprise is great that it should have attained its present extent and value: from the middle of the last century to the present time, it has gradually increase and private munificence has afforded what the parsimony of government denied. The average amount of the money voted to it by Parliament may be taken at 17,000%. per annum; scarcely so much as the government of France applies to the augmentation and support of the Jardin des Plantes; yet, in the face of this strong proof of neglect, people exclaim against the constitution of the place as the great cause of its present inefficiency, and as calculated to retard its improvement in future; forgetting that the trustees cannot do all that is required of them without the necessary funds, and that the want of room for a proper display of the collections diminishes their utility, inasmuch as it conceals their true extent: it is true, that the new buildings are proceeding rapidly towards completion, and it is no iless true, that they ought to have been completed long since; but whether the go-vernment may be inclined in future to place an adequate revenue at the disposal of the trustees, remains to be shewn. In addition, however, to the want of money and the want of room, causes quite sufficient in themselves to check the advancement of any establishment, it appears to us, that there is another circumstance which may be considered as indirectly affecting the growth of the Museum; the collections contained in it are of too heterogeneous a nature, each as much retarding the increase of firm but too truly his awakened suspicions. He the other as all united exceed the exact definition of a Museum: for instance, there are an extensive library; collections of medals, coins, gems, and prints; a gallery of antique sculpture; and the department of natural history: it seldom happens that so many various subinnocence, caused her instantly to be beheaded. jects are found assembled under the same roof, and, although it were proved that no positive punishment, and four of her female attendants evil results from such an arrangement, the were ordered by the infuriated duke to be flung propriety of it would still, for many reasons, be

been well, before the commencement of the new buildings at the Museum and of the National Gallery, to have considered the possibility of uniting the collections of painting and sculp-ture, and of separating the books, prints, coins, &c., and the natural history, into two distinct departments. Had such a division been effected, each collection would have acquired fresh vigour by becoming independent of any other, instead of being condemned, as at present to a gradual and uniform increase. Thus, the causes which have hitherto cramped the growth of the Museum, are comprised within a very narrow compass, and, it is evident that the prime source of evil is not the inefficiency of the governing body, but a want of money, without which all exertion is fruitless. It is the fashion, however, to estimate our Museum by similar establishments abroad; and here again the complainers seem to forget, that it has existed only for 77 years, and that it has never received a due support from the government of this country; yet they do not hesitate to com-pare it with institutions which have existed for centuries, and flourished in the sunshine of royal favour. But for the narrow limits of our journal, we could shew that, taking into consideration the disabilities of youth and poverty, if we may so speak, the British Museum would rather gain than lose, by a fair comparison of some of its collections with any of the Museums abroad. The Royal Library at Paris is as ancient as the fifteenth century, and was an object of care in the sixteenth; at present, it contains 700,000 volumes of printed books, and 80,000 MSS. The library of the British Museum, which is not a third of that age, contains 220,000 printed books, and 22,000 MSS.; had our government added only 20,000 volumes yearly, since 1759, it would, at this moment, have greatly exceeded the other, notwithstanding its antiquity; and, in its present condition, is, probably, not very inferior to the Vatican, of which so little is known, and so much is said, on the principle of "omne igno-tum pro magnifico." Montfauçon in his Dia-rium Italicum, published in 1702, says that he was told the MSS. in the Vatican amounted to about 12,000, and, speaking apparently of his own knowledge, that the collection of printed books was very inferior to the Royal Library at Paris. Supposing the number of MSS. and books to have increased between that period and the French invasion, it is very certain that the library was then pillaged to a very great extent, and, it is well known, that several libraries, formed of its spoils, have been sold by auction in London; indeed, we can safely assert that there is no library in Europe at all superior to our own, which is not at least twice as old, and which does not owe that superiority, to a prompt attention, on the part of the government to its wants, or to causes which can never influence the British Museum. The returns from the foreign libraries clearly shew that the governments abroad do not always act with that just liberality, for which they obtain credit here: it appears, that while large sums are spent from the purchase of books, the librarians, among whom are to be found many of the first literary men on the continent, enjoy but miserable pittances, taking into account the relative value of money, and generally less than the small salaries of the officers of our Museum. If we are inferior to many of the Museums on the continent in works of ancient art, is not the cause as apparent as the fact of the inferiority itself. The Museum of Florence is

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\* Excepting always that at St. Petersburgh - a forced

ment of the fifteenth century, only five antique statues of marble, and one of bronze, were known to exist in Rome. Cosmo de Medici set the fashion of collecting at Florence, which was so liberally practised by his successors; but no sooner had Leo X. given an impulse to antiquarian research in Rome, than the Vatican rapidly excelled the Florentine Museum, upon which, nevertheless, more time and labour had been expended. All Italy, and more especially Rome, was a mine which required only to be worked to enrich its sovereigns; consequently, the collections there were the finest, and formed at a trifling expense. The Museo formed at a trifling expense. The Museo Borbonico at Naples is indebted for its riches to the discovery of Herculaneum and Pompeii. It would be strange indeed, if the Italian Museums, formed in the ancient seat of civilisation, where letters last decayed and first revived, with the surrounding country co-vered by and covering the fairest specimens of Roman and Grecian art, were not superior to all others; and still stranger would it be, if the British Museum, scarce a century old, and long neglected by the government, with narrow resources, and few opportunities of purchasing, could pretend, or be supposed to equal them. Putting aside these collections, the Louvre alone, of all other foreign establishments, is superior to the Gallery of Antiquities; and this is owing, in a great measure, to the purchase of the Borghese Collection, under the Empire: besides, it was formed long before the Museum. Our collection of coins and gems is scarcely surpassed by those of Paris and Vienna; and our Gallery of Minerals is admitted to be the most extensive and the most valuable in Europe: if, then, it be candidly admitted that the Collection of Prints, and some departments of natural history, are far from complete, we accuse not the directors of mismanagement. We again say, that, considering the comparative infancy of the establishment, the little care bestowed upon it by government, and the fact, that it is indebted to individual liberality, for the best part of its contents, there is more reason for astonishment that it should be so extensive, than for complaint because it is inferior to the Museums abroad. Let us admonish the state to become more liberal towards it, and let us endeavour to convince those in office, that by contributing to the mental enjoyments of a nation, they indirectly increase its happiness and strengthen their own power; but it is worse than folly to blame those to whom no reproach attaches.

Some time since we gave Sir Humphry Davy's remarks upon the British Museum, extracted from the Memoirs of that distinguished John Davy. Sir Humphry observed, that "un-fortunately, in England, science is not the taste, either of the court or of the government."
This may be admitted as a general proposition; and as such it would alone vindicate the directors of our Museum from the charge of mismanagement, were they not already exone-rated by the considerations above stated. It is an admission, and that, too, by a high authority, of neglect shewn by the state to the national museum, and altogether invalidates the supposition, that the care of it has been entrusted to improper persons. We may ask, if science is not the taste of the government, science is not the taste of the government, witness the Bruce MSS. It is very easy to say, would the Museum have been more extensive, even though the direction of it had been confided to scientific characters? Would philosophers or litterateurs have put their hands in ment is but a steward to the public, and ought,

older than that of the Vatican; yet the latter their pockets and have generously supplied the is superior to the former: at the commence-funds which the government was unwilling to funds which the government was unwilling to grant? The ability of such characters to do so, in a country where it is confessed that science is not, or at least was not, fostered by the state, would be questionable. Had science been so protected, such an act would have been unnecessary; and the only advantage that could have accrued to the Museum from their presence would have been, not so much an increase of the place, since that, supposing the favour of government, would have happened with the most mediocre management, but a better arrangement of its various departments; this might, and indeed would have been done long since, but for a want of room; and, had the improvements that have already taken place commenced in Sir Humphry Davy's time, we feel convinced he would never have penned some of his observations. It is altogether erroneous to conclude, that those only are men of science or of literature who gain a living by the exercise of their talents; and it is contrary to long experience to suppose the followers of science to be, in general, men of business, and inspired with equal views, uninfluenced alike by the jealousies and heartburnings which affect mortals of weaker minds. In short, we may reasonably doubt the correctness of the principle which should lead such persons to regard, or the government to bestow, a trusteeship of the British Museum as the reward of merit; and we are inclined to believe, that few of the sons of science would be so truly philosophical, such perfect imitators of Diogenes, as to prefer the empty shadow of a title to the more substantial and inviting aspect of a pension, which should remove them beyond the reach of the demon of narrow circumstances, and enable them to enjoy that learned leisure which is likened unto a paradise below.

Among other questions relating to the management of the Museum, the committee ask, if an instance could be given of a poet having been a trustee? Now, with all deference, we conclude that a poet would be the last person to desire, and naturally the least qualified to execute, such an office; indeed, it is some-what problematical as to what part he would be required to take at the meetings of the board, unless it were to versify the minutes. Surely this duty might be performed, very satisfactorily, by some of the present members; but, after all, it would not be poetry, and doubtless the announcement of an epic upon the decisions of the trustees, would impart a novel, and, perhaps, an interesting character to their proceedings.

The trustees have been accused of refusing to purchase some valuable collections, which have, consequently, passed into private hands, or become dispersed. We may, perhaps, admit that in one or two instances this accusation is just; and even in these we are unable to tell the motives that led to such refusals, as we are not in possession of the facts wherewith to form a correct judgment; but it will be recollected that the trustees had, and have, even now, very scanty funds at their disposal. We may observe, moreover, that the principle which too often induces people to demand a greater price from the government than from an individual, is erroneous and absurd. We know, that for several collections offered to the Museum, at least four times their value was demanded,-

no more than an individual, to pay above its have one of his pages shew him a better. Mat-the great singer, or the fortunate artist, in commercial value for any thing. The payment teis, for the sake of the jest, condescended to whatever line, and, by all the arts of the patronage; just towards the seller, because he that he soon outran him in his own way. But purse such tribute as his vanity, or his compatronage; just towards the seller, because he will hardly part with his commodities without a profit; and just towards the nation, which demands a correct appropriation of the money it contributes to the service of the state. In a future article we shall dismiss the subject with a few observations on the state of the library and catalogues, which fall more directly within our province.

The Violin: being an Account of that leading Instrument, and its most eminent Professors, §c. §c. By George Dubourg. 12mo. pp. 276. London, 1836. Colburn; Edinburgh, Bell and Bradfute; Dublin, Cumming.

WORKS of this kind must be mere miscellanies, for the history of the violin would be a history of music for the last two centuries, at least, if followed into all its ramifications and connexions. The only question the reviewer has to determine, therefore, is, not whether a Burney or a Hawkins has published, but whether an unassuming writer has produced an entertaining volume on the subject proposed for his lucubrations? This, we think, Mr. Dubourg has done. He has taken the fiddle in hand with a good air, and his variations are very amusing. We have the early accounts of the instrument, such as they are, neatly condensed; and we have different national schools. and their styles and professors described, till we, even we, who hardly know an Amato from a Kitcat, seem to have a tolerable notion of their several claims to distinction and admiration. Perhaps there are many gaps to fill up; and, perhaps, there has been allotted to easy matter (i. e. such as could be selected from recent periodicals, whose opinions were not worth a sous, on recent performers and performances) more than an honest proportion of pages in such a production; but still the medley is agreeable enough; and the good-natured reader, not deeply versed in the general theme, will reap information on some points, and pleasing anecdotes and recollections on all.

We will quote a few passages in proof. About the earliest Violin-mania in England occurred towards the end of the reign of

" Its beginning (says Mr. Dubourg) was accidental, and occasioned by the arrival of Nicola Matteis; he was an excellent musician; performed wonderfully on the violin. His manner was singular; but he excelled, in one respect, all that had been heard in England before: his arcata, or manner of bowing, his shakes, divisions, and, indeed, his whole style of performance, was surprising, and every stroke of his bow was a mouthful. When he first came hither, he was very poor, but not so poor as proud; which prevented his being heard, or making useful acquaintance, for a long time, except among a few merchants in the city, who patronised him. And, setting a high value on his condescension, he made them indemnify him for the want of more general favour. By degrees, however, he was more noticed, and was introduced to perform at court. But his demeanour did not please, and he was thought capricious and troublesome, as he took offence if any one whispered while he played; which was a kind of attention that had not been

he continued so outrageous in his demands, particularly for his solos, that few would com-ply with them, and he remained in narrow circumstances and obscurity a long while. Nor would his superior talents ever have contributed to better his fortune, had it not been for the zeal and friendly offices of two or three dilettanti, his admirers. These, becoming acquainted with him, and courting him in his own way, had an opportunity of describing to him the temper of the English, who, if humoured, would be liberal; but, if uncivilly treated, would be sulky, and despise him and his talents; assuring him that, by a little complete the world weither ways symplectically and the sulky and the world weither ways symplectically and the sulky as the world weither ways symplectically and the sulky and the world weither ways symplectically and the sulky are such as the sulky and the sulky are such as the plaisance, he would neither want employment nor money. By advice so reasonable, they at length brought him into such good temper, that he became generally esteemed and sought after; and, having many scholars, though moderate terms, his purse filled apace, which confirmed his conversion. After this, he discovered a way of acquiring money which was then perfectly new in this country: for, ob-serving how much his scholars admired the lessons he composed for them (which were all duos), and that most musical gentlemen who heard them, wished to have copies of them, he was at the expense of having them neatly engraved on copper-plates, in oblong octavo, which was the beginning of engraving music in England; and these he presented, well-bound, to lovers of the art, and admirers of his talents, for which he often received three, four, and five guineas. And so great were his encouragement and profits in this species of traffic, that he printed four several books of 'Ayres for the Violin' in the same form and size.'

Of Paganini we have a great deal; and, considering how much we had, at no distant date, on the same subject, in the newspapers, rather more than enough; but still the following, connected with his début, may be news to

generality of readers.

"There is in London a class of needy and adventurous foreigners, who, with no available talent of their own, have just industry enough to make them beset those of their countrymen, whose genius or good fortune enables them to figure successfully in this metropolis. Whoever has had occasion to direct his course through the Regent's Quadrant, either in the twilight of a departing day, or during the brighter reign of gas and night, must have noted the loose, idle, swaggering gait, the tawdry and outré habiliments, and the dark and dirty looks, of certain figures who loiter about in obstructive knots, or saunter on in pairs or threes, among the more regulated passengers. Their equipment is ordinarily completed by a reeking cigar, which adds to their sense of importance, and is an auxiliary to their impertinencies of demeanour towards the females, of whatever grade, who chance to pass within their track. But their ' high and palmy state' is in the gallery of the King's Theatre, where their pertinacious 'manual exercise,' and their laudatory vociferations, in favour of the dancers who successively occupy the stage during the ballet, are a serious annoyance to all around them. Under this character, which seems to have no English term

purse such tribute as his vanity, or his complaisance, may be willing to afford. It is no unnatural conjecture to suppose that, on the occasion above named, Paganini acted under a mistake produced by influence of this kind."

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It is almost as common and certain as any

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Amateur concerts are hardly caricatured in the subjoined scena, "being the description (says our author) of a quartet, freely drawn from the French of an eminent living writer, whose lively and graphic powers in the de-lineation of familiar scenes have procured him very extensive admiration among his own countrymen, and some share of credit parmi nous autres Anglais. Here then is the exposition; but let imagination first draw up the curtain, and place us in view of the convened guests at a musical soirée, given by some people of middling condition, but somewhat ambitious pretensions, in a private apartment somewhere in Paris: — After several hours of the evening had worn away in lengthened expectation, till the assembled party, tired of speculating and talking, began to yawn; the old gentleman who usually undertook the bass instrument, was seen to look at his watch, and was heard to murmur between his teeth, 'What a bore is this! How am I to get home by eleven, if the time goes on in this do-nothing way; and I here since seven o'clock, too! So much for your early invitations; but they shan't catch me again. At length, the host, who had been passing the evening in running about to borrow instruments, and collect the 'disjecta membra of the music, reappears, with a scarlet countenance, and in the last state of perspiring exhaustion,- his small and feeble figure tottering beneath the weight of sundry large music-books and a tenor-fiddle. 'Here I am again,' exclaimed he, with an air that was rendered perfectly wild by his exertions: 'I've had a world of trouble to get the parts together; but I've managed the business. Gentlemen, you may commence the quartet. 'Ay, ay,' said Mons. Pattier, the bass-fiddle man, 'let us begin at once, for we've no time to lose; but where's my part?' There, there, on the music-desk.' Come, gentlemen, now let us tune.' The constituent amateurs proceed accordingly to the labour of getting into mutual agreement; during which process the auditory shuffle about, and insert themselves into seats as they can. Already are yawning symptoms of impatience visible among the ladies, to whom the very mention of a quartet furnishes a pretence for the vapours, and who make no scruple to talk, for diversion's sake, with the loungers behind their chairs. Whispering, laughing, quizzing, are freely indulged in, and chiefly at the special expense of the musical executioners themselves. enterprising four, at length brought into unison, plant themselves severally before their desks. The elderly basso has stuck his circlet of green paper round the top of his candle, for optical protection from the glare: the tenor mounted his spectacles: the second violin has roughened his bow with a whole ounce of resin; and the premier has adjusted his cravat so as to save his neck from too hard an en-counter with his instrument. These premuch in fashion at our court. It was said that claqueurs. Externally, they are known as the liminaries being arranged, and the host having obtained something of a 'lull,' among the the Duke of Richmond would have settled a personification of impudent pretence; and, to pension upon him, though he wished him to enable them to support this equivocal character, they seek out the private quarters of his ambitious bow-arm, directs a look of com-

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mand to his colleagues, and stamps with his foot. 'Are we ready?' he inquires with a determined air. 'I have been ready any time these two hours,' replied Mons. Pattier, with a malcontent shrug of his shoulders...

'Stay a moment, gentlemen,' cries the second fiddle; 'my treble string is down. 'Tis a new string—just let me bring it up to pitch again.'

The tenor takes advantage of this interval, to study a passage that he fears is likely to 'give and the bass takes a consolatory him pause; pinch of snuff. 'I've done it now,' ejaculates at length the second violin .- 'That's well, hen; attention again, gentlemen, if you please. Let us play the allegro very mode-rately, and the adagio rather fast—it improves the effect.'—' Ay, ay, just as you like; only you must beat the time.' The signal is given: the first violin starts off, and the rest follow, after their peculiar fashion. It becomes presently evident that, instead of combination, all is contest; notwithstanding which evi-dence of honourable rivalry, somebody has the malice to whisper, pretty audibly, 'The rogues are in a conspiracy to flay our ears.' Pre-sently the first violin makes a dead halt -Pre-'There's some mistake: we're all wrong.'
'Why, it seems to go well enough,' observes the tenor. 'No, no, we're out somewhere.''Where is it then?' 'Where? that's more 'Where is it then?' 'Where? that's more than I can tell.'-- 'For my part,' says the second violin, 'I have not missed a note.'- 'Nor I either,'-- 'Nor I.'-- 'Well gentlemen, we must try back.' 'Ay, let us begin again; and pray be particular in beating the time.' 'Nay, I think I mark the time loud enough.' 'As for that,' exclaims the hostess, 'the person who lodges below has already talked about complaining to the landlord.' The business is now resumed, but with no improved success, although the first violin works away in an agitation not very dissimilar to that of a maniac. The company relax into laughter, and nuc. The company relax into laughter, and the performers come to a stand-still. 'This is decidedly not the thing,' says the conducting violinist, Monsieur Longuet,—'there is doubt-less some error—let us look at the bass part—Why, here's a pretty affair—you are playing in B flat, and we are in D!' 'I only know the the bass in the latest the bass in the latest th know that I've been playing what you told me, the first quartet in the first book,' replies old Monsieur Pattier, florid with rage. 'How the Mouseur Fatter, north with rage.

deuce is it then? let us see the title-page,
Why, how is this? a quartett of Mozart's, and
we are playing one of Pleyell's! now, really that
is too good!' Renewed laughter is the result of this discovery, and the abortive attempt ends with a general merriment, the contagion of which, however, fails to touch old Monsieur Pattier, who can by no means turn into a joke his indignation at a mistake that has effectually put a stop to the performance of the quartet."

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With this we conclude our notice, and can fairly recommend this small and unpretending work to the public; it is light reading, and well fitted for autumn and the retirings from London, when the evenings are growing dark.

## Rookwood: Fourth Edition.

WE ought before to have noticed this fourth edition of so popular a work (but the word fourth is better than our criticism), and one not only so much improved by its author as almost to be re-written, but so admirably illustrated by Cruikshank. Among his other additions, Mr. Ainsworth has put ten new lyrics to those striking compositions, of the same sort which illus-trated the first edition, and we cannot do better than give specimens of their spirit and poetry.

" A Chapter of Highwayn Monte sub hoc lapidum tegitur Balista sepultus, Nocte, die, tutum carpe. Viator, iter.' Virgil's Juvenilia.

Or every rascal of every kind, The most notorious to my mind Was the Cavalier Captain—gay Jemmy Hind!\* Which nobody can deny.

But the pleasantest coxcomb among them all For lute, coranto, and madrigal, Was the galliard Frenchman—Claude Du Val!—
Which nobody can deny.

But yet Tobygloak never a coach could rob, Could lighten a pocket, or empty a fob, With a neater hand than Old Mob, Old Mob;— Which nobody can deny.

Nor did Housebreaker ever deal harder knocks On the stubborn lid of a good strong box, Than that prince of good fellows, Tom Cox, Tom Cox 15 Which nobody can deny.

And blither fellow on broad highway,
Did never with oath bid traveller stay,
Than devil-may-care Will Holloway I |Which nobody can deny.

And in roguery naught could exceed the tricks
Of Gettings and Grey, and the five or six
Who trod in the steps of bold Neddy Wicks! —
Which nobody can deny.

Nor could any so handily break a lock As Shepherd, who stood on the Newgate dock, And nicknamed the gaolers around him 'hie flock!'\\_-Which nobody can deny.

Nor did highwayman ever before possess, For ease, for security, danger, distress, Such a mare as Dick Turpin's Black Bess, Black Bess! Which nobody can deny."

" The Corpse-candle.

· Lambere flamma ταφος et circum funera pasci.' \*Lambere flamma \*\*aps\* et circum funera pasciThrough the midnight gloom did a pale blue light,
To the churchyard mirk wing its ionesome flight: —
Thrice it floated those old walls round.
Thrice it paused.—till the grave it found.
Over grass-green sod it glanced,
Over the fresh-turned earth it danced,
Like a torch in the night-breeze quivering,—
Never was seen so gay a thing!
As the midnight dance of that pale blue light!

As the midnight dance of that pale blue light!

Now what of the rale blue flame, dot know.

\* One of the state As the midnight dance of that pale blue light!

Now what of that pale blue flame dost know?

Cans't tell where it comes from, or where it will go?

I set the soul, released from clay,

I set the soul, released from clay,

I set the soul, released from clay,

I set the soul, released from the clay,

And tarries a moment in mirth and glee

Where the corpse it hath quitted interra shall be?

Or is it the trick of some fanciful sprite,

That taketh in mortal mischance delight,

And marketh the road the coffin shall go,

And the spot where the dead shall be soon laid low?

Ask him, who can answer those questions aright;

I know not the cause of that pale blue light?

#### Altogether this is a most attractive volume.

Altogether this is a most attractive volume.

\* "James Hind (the 'Prince of Prigs.") — a Royalist Captain of some distinction, was hanged, drawn, and quartered, in 1652. Some good sortes are tide in the had the credit of robbing Cromwell, Bradshaw, much had the credit of robbing and the price of the property of the worthy, " "See Du Val's Life by Doctor Pope, or Leigh Hunt's brilliant sketch of him in The Indicator."

2 " We cannot say much in favour of this worthy, whose name was Thomas Simpson. The reason of his sobriquet does not appear. He was not particularly scrupulous as to his mode of appropriation. One of his asyings is, however, on record—he told a widow whom he robbed, 'that the end of a woman's husband begins in tears, but the end of her tears is another husband;' upon which,' asys his Chronicler, 'the gentlewoman gave him about fifty guineas."

3 " Tom was a sprightly fellow, and carried his sprightliness to the gallows; for, just before he was turned off, he kicked Mr. Smith, the ordinary, and the hangman, out of the cart; a piece of pleasautry which created, as may be supposed, no small sensation."

3 " Many agreeable stories are related of Holloway. His career, however, closed with a murder. He contrived to break out of Newgate, but returned to wineas the trial of one of his associates; when, upon the attempt of a turnkey, one Richard Spurling, to seize him, Will knocked him on the head in the presence of the whole court. For his 20."

4 "Wick's adventures with Madame Toly are highly diverting. It was this hero, not Turpin, as has been erroneously stated, who stopped the celebrated Lord Mohun. Of Gettings and Grey, and 'the five or six,' the less asid the better."

5 "One of Shepherds recorded mote: When a Bible was pressed upon his acceptance by Mr. Wagstaff, the chaplain, Jack refused it, saying, 'that in his situation, one file would be worth

Memoirs of Mirabeau.

THE fourth volume analyses and reviews Mirabeau's early productions, particularly his Essay on Despotism, written at the age of twenty, and his works on Lettres de Cachet, and subsequently on the Stock-jobbing of the ministers, &c. of Louis XVI. The character of his youthful performances is thus diametri-

cally described by his father and his editor: —
"This book (says the former, speaking of the Lettres de Cachet) is a furious farrage of nonsense, in which he has piled up all that can be said against despotism, joined to impudent pleadings in favour of rascals. It is seditious folly let loose." And again:— "We have given another extract containing

a pretty just reproach in reference to M. de Rougemont, who is very violently attacked in the Lettres de Cachet. 'Very well, master! But in reading Voltaire, and Linguet, in their descriptions of the Bastille and Vincennes, we are sure to swallow as many lies as lives. What a noble use of time and memory! a stinking vessel can never furnish a good liquid; and, for instance, to quote the 'Lettres de Cachet, this Rougemont, which the fellow treats so vilely, was his flatterer, and the lackey of his grand airs. He was always at my house and elsewhere singing the fellow's praises, and he has been rewarded for it as you see. All the cases of oppression he mentions are well-known histories of good-for-nothing scoundrels. These fellows lend each other arms and manifestoes, and all is swallowed as Gospel truth. judge wisely of this production, which others have attempted to make me believe a fine thing; to which I have always replied: 'I perceive that the age has recourse to dead men. So much the better - this consoles me for departing !''- Unpublished Letter from the Marquess of Mirabeau to the Marquess Longo, dated June 9th, 1783."

The opposite spirit in which the editor looked on these pamphlets is illustrated by the follow-ing extract, which also goes into other extraneous matters, and may serve to exemplify his

biography: \_

One of the most disgraceful wrongs committed by governments is, that they have as-siduously laboured for the corruption of morals. They have even employed the fine arts in effecting this, by placing them in the service of a frantic and sacrilegious pride, and diverting them from their religious and philosophical destination. Thus the time comes at length for the party panting to claim the fulfilment of the contract, and for the principal to punish his agent for the non-performance of his duties. But these just reprisals lead to such profound political subversions that nations generally are in no haste to make use of their rights, but, on the contrary, put up with despotism so long as it is pretty nearly bearable."

The last three words bespeak indifferent translation; but we must glance over the rest of the volume. It relates to Mirabeau's asylum in Holland, and his multifarious literary labours there for sustenance; also his journey to London, and productions whilst amongst us. His return to Paris, April 1785; his subsequent trip to Berlin, and his voluminous correspondence, &c., having previously gone into long details respecting the Parisian water-works, and other statistical affairs of little interest to the English reader. His return to Paris, at the convoca-tion of the notables, (the Not Ables, whose meet-ing sounded the knell of the French monarchy!) and his letters against Calonne, and Necker, and other publications, bring us to the end of

volume IV.; from which we quote a portion likely to be most attractive to our readers, as it

speaks Mirabeau's opinions of ourselves. " Mirabeau took with him on this journey (to England) the infant we have already mentioned in the preface to this work, and at the end of book xiii. vol. 3. He loved this child, then two years old, with extreme affection, and it re-mained with him until his death. He was also accompanied by a young female whom he had attached to his fate, and of whom we are bound to say a few words. We must premise, that this connexion, though irregular, was not a public scandal like the former liaison; and, in spite of the situation in which the young woman was placed, she never ceased to command the respect and affection of all who knew her, -a just reward for the exquisite qualities with which she contrived to cover the only blemish that could be imputed to her. 'To this we may add, that she inspired Mirabeau with an attachment of a nature very different from, and much more durable than, any former connexion of a similar description. Henrietta Amelia. born May 15, 1765, was a natural daughter of Onno Zwier Van Haren, who acquired great renown in Holland by the ability he displayed in the highest public employments, and by his great talents in history and high literature. At fourteen years of age she lost her excellent father; and, having only a very small annuity to live upon, the interesting orphan was placed as a boarder in a convent at Paris. Here Mirabeau became acquainted with her about the beginning of 1784. She had no relations, no friends, no experience, and no power of defence. Subdued by the pity with which Mira-beau's misfortunes inspired her, and seduced by the magic of his language, she united her-self to him, consented to follow him, and for several years strongly fixed him by her beauty, her good sense, and the power of a virtue the more touching, because a single fault rendered her as modest as she was gentle and shrinking. -as well as by the truly maternal care she bestowed upon the child beloved by Mirabeau, and which she had adopted as her own. Accustomed to meet with all sorts of accidents in his travels, Mirabeau was nearly lost in crossing the Channel. Shortly after his arrival he gave an account of his impressions in a letter, part of which we insert here, because in it will be of which we insert nere, because in it will be found the subjects that usually occupied his thoughts. 'The approaches to London are of a rustic beauty of which not even Holland has furnished models (I should rather compare them a rustic beauty of which not even Holland has furnished models (I should rather compare them to some valley in Switzerland); for—and this very remarkable fact immediately catches an experienced eye—this domineering people are; beyond every thing, agriculturists in their island; and it is this that has so long saved through this highly cultivated and prosperous land, and the firm their own delirium. I felt my heart strongly and deeply moved as I passed through this highly cultivated and prosperous land, and I said to myself, 'Wherefore this emotion so new to me?' These country-seats compared with ours are mere country-boxes. Several parts of France, even in the worst of its provinces, and all Normandy, through which I have just passed, are assuredly more beautiful firm: 'Angrous was how,' says he. 'Petry well, thank'ee, sir,' says the gen'm'n. 'Can't say I do,' says my father. 'Oh, I know you,' says the splendid establishments, immense public works, vast traces of the most prodigious efforts of man; and yet here I am delighted much more than I was ever surprised in my own country, by the things I have mentioned. It is because there nature is improved, and not forced; it is because these roads, narrow, but excellent, do because these roads, narrow, but excellent, do whith we have a going. 'Werry well, thank'ee, sir,' says the goen'm'n it sit down, Mr. Weller, 'says he. 'Petry well, thank'ee, sir,' says the gen'm'n. 'Can't say I do,' says my father. 'That's 'thought so,' says the gen'm'n. 'Can't say I do,' says in the gen'm'n. 'Can't say I do,' says in the gen'm'n. 'Can't say I do,' says th

not remind me of forced or average labour, except to lament over the country in which such labour is known; it is because this admirable state of cultivation shews me the respect paid to property; it is because this care, this universal cleanliness, is a speaking symptom of welfare; it is because all this rural wealth is in nature, near to nature, and according to nature, and does not, like splendid palaces surrounded with hovels, betray the excessive inequality of fortunes, which is the source of so many evils; it is because all tells me that here the people are something—that every man enjoys the development and free exercise of his faculties, and that I am in another order of things.' We insert also another passage, in which again appears the man continually preoccupied with the interests of freedom; and we give this extract the more readily because, on the one hand, the letters to Chamfort are, as we have already said, very little known; and, on the other, because Mirabeau's pre-carious and painful situation in England pre-vented him from writing, according to his first intention, the observations which the British constitution naturally suggested to a mind like 'I am not an enthusiast in favour of England; and I now know sufficient of that country to tell you that, if its constitution is the best known, the application of this constitution is the worst possible; and that if the Englishman is, as a social man, the most free in the world, the English people are the least What then is free of any. freedom, since the small portion of it found in one or two laws places in the first rank a nation so little favoured by nature? What may a constitution not effect, when this one, though incomplete and defective, saves, and will save for some time to come, the most corrupt people in the universe from their own corruption? How great must be the influence of a small number of data favourable to the human species. since this people-ignorant, superstitions, obstinate (for they are all this), covetous, and very near to Punic faith, are, better than most other nations, known, because they enjoy a small portion of civil liberty."

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

The Pickwick Club Papers, No. V., edited by "Boz." (London, Chapman and Hall.)—We hope and believe that this clever and characteristic publication prospers as it deserves to do. The present number has a very amusing tale of a bagman, told in Boz's best style, which we recommend to readers, and would, indeed,

know. We're all wery fond o' you, Mr. Weiler, so in case you should have an accident when you're a bringing them here woters down, and should tip 'em over into the canal vithout hurtin' 'em, this is for yourself,' says he. 'Geul'm'a, you're wery kind,' says my father, 'and l'il drink your health in another glass of wine,' says he; vich he did, and then buttons up the money, and how himself out. You vouldn't believe, sir,' continued Sam, with a look of inexpressible impudence at his master, 'that on the wery day as he came down with them woters, his coach tota upset on that 'ere wery spot, and ev'ry man on 'em was truned into the canal.' 'And got out again?' inquired Mr. Pickwick, hastily. 'Why,' replied Sam, very slowly, 'I rather think one old gentleman was missin'; I know his hat was found, but I s'n't quite certain whether his head was in I to rnot. But what I look at, is the hex-tra-ordinary, and wonderful coincidence, that arter what that gen'im' said my father's coach should be upset in that wery place, and on that contains the contains the contains the contains the preventain the preventain of the preventain the preventai

A Pleasant Perservation through the Prettiest Parts of Pennsylvania, performed by Peregriae Prolits. 18mo. pp. 148. (Philadelphia, Grigg and Elliott.) — A facetious and punning little tome; the poetry of the Dedication abominably good; ex. gr.,

"I wish, my friend, that you could view
The feats of yankee ingenuity,
The contemplation would just suit
Your philosophic temper to a T. But since I cannot have you here, I wish you all joy in Gower Street, And many a pleasant day and year, And painless night of slumber sweet."

And painless night of slumber sweet."

But the Preface, speaking in plain prose, and of more useful things, tells us"Since 1826, Pennsylvania has expended, in the construction of six hundred and one miles of canal and slack-water navigation, and one hundred and nineteen miles of rail-road, the sum of twenty-two millions four hundred thousand dollars; and it is supposed that the amount of tolls collected on these works during the cur-

miles of rail-road, the sum of a wearly any one that the amount of toils collected on these works during the current year will exceed one million of doilars."

On the subject of international literature, &c. we are also interested by the following:

"We have some hope that John will read our book, for times are much altered since the wicked reviewer exclaimed, 'Who reads an American book?' From that very hour, John, who, under a rough and buildings surface, has at bottom a thick substratum of good-natured honesty; from that very minute, I say, John began to read American books, ay, and to print them too; taking care to charge for his editions four times as much as the price of the American; so as to make up in cost what they may want in matter. " " Moreover, the editor of the London Literary Gazette has deigned to read, and recommend to his readers, a little series of the editor of the London Literary Gazette has deigned to read, and recommend to the readers, a little series of Letters, some time since edited by us, touching the Vignia Springs; for which courtery, as in duty bound, we return our thanks and those of the author, and will now say to him, opus hie est impatulo et golitulo judicito thus, we have again need of his favourable and discriminating judgment. The good-natured reviewer, in noticing our letter-writer's Ne quid nigh Miss, says, 'A pun worthy of the miseries of human life; and a passage rather officency of the Trollopean remarks, which, inter disk, have given so much offence to certain of the native, though, from their own countrymen, the evil habit (epitting) is proven to exist; and we may exclaim with Shakespeare, (see his tragedy of 'Pixarro, 'passim:')

'Tils true, 'it' pittiful 'it's pitting' list ruce'

'Tis true, 'ti' spittiful 'ti' spittiful 'tis true.'

"This is a bright scintilla to burst from the thick air of London, and said in quite a pleasant way. Touching this foul matter of spitting, we admit, plane, abone continuous paratione, that in some places south of Mason and Dixou's line, it exists almost as an epidemic; but in other parts of the United States the cases are only sporadic, as in Britannia Magoa herself. We could, if we would, tell such a tale about hawking, spitting, blowing of noses, and other agreeable tricks played in our presence by a decent-looking Ockney, as we were travelling with two ladies in the inside of a mail-coach between Stratford-on-Avon and Oxford, as would cause our transattantic frlend to make a wry face; but we will not, for fear he should think us spitcful. It is a mistake to suppose that Americans generally have been irristed by the remarks made on their peculiarities by the Trollopes, Hamiltons, Halls, et id genus omne. The literary tribe, whose bristles have become perpendicular at these harmless and sometimes useful strictures, are an irritable genus, and do not represent truly the feelings of Jonathan, who resembles his cousin Bull in possessing good fund of fundamental honesty; and, moreover, a superstructure of shrewdness entirely his own, white plut to cure his own disease. Spitting and swearing are nearly out of fashion in Philadelphia; and, at this moment, we cannot recall to our recollection more than two or three gentlemen, and they are in the sear and yellow leaf, who cannot recall to our recollection more than two or these gentlemen, and they are in the sear and yellow feet when two or who would think of such a thing as spitting on the carpet of a lady's drawing-room; so that the race is almost extinct there, like that which formerly asked a second time for

soup at a dinner-party."

But these quotations are only the externals of a very amusing little volume; and if our friends 'tother side the water' were pleased by our remarks on their former publication, we can only say that we like this six well; and we hope they will as well like our opinion of it.

Thoughts on the Cloister and the Crowd. Pp. 111. (London, H. Wix.)—Old Montaigne has not much to asswer for, if his example only let to such productions as the present. A series of brief passages of interest: we select from among others more trite and questionable, the following specimens of the whole:—

"It is quite impossible to understand the character of a secon from one action. however striking that action more

the following specimens of the whole:—

"It is quite impossible to understand the character of a person from one action, however striking that action may be. The youngest mathematician knows that one point is insufficient to determine a straight line, much less any thing so curve-like as the character even of the most simple and upright of mankind. If you are obliged to judge from a single action, let it not be a striking one. So the property of the striking one are appeared to the simple and upright of mankind. If you are obliged to judge from a single action, let it not be a striking one. So the appeared to the sign and the striking one are some certainty of its partial success, see from the appeared to feel the striking one of the striking of the striki

This is true, for it would then be a place of punishment. In conclusion, the author has read and thought, and his reader may be taught to think while he peruses these pages.

Brace, by Capt. Chamier. 2d edition. 3 vols. 13mo. Chamber of the sender may be taught to think while he peruses these pages.

Brace, by Capt. Chamier. 2d edition. 3 vols. 13mo. Chamber of the sources. There are three very clever etchings by Cruikshank added to the attractions of "the writer on his success. There are three very clever etchings by Cruikshank added to the attractions of "the last of the Agamemnons." As a sort of sea-monster curiosity, we will add the amusing preface to this edition. "Greeneitch Hospital, March.—Sir, As it's blowing great guns and small arms, top mauls and marling spikes with their points downwards, I've got anug in my own cabbin, and am about to tell you what I think of my Life. I'm much obliged to you, sir, that's what I arm—because I think it was my due. A man that has served under Nelson is somebody, even now, when sailors drink tea, have no tails, wear no buckles, and are giving over bloccy—except in pipes: smoke is all they have now—the pay's all smoke, from the marine's trousers, fresh pipe-clayed for Sunday's muster, to the top of the cook's funnel. There's one of those Reviewing chaps—he must be a soldier from he name—says he can't find any thing new about Nelson in my Life: tell him to look again—there's more new yars, and true ones, about Trafalgar than ever he read lefore or ever will again, without they copy my Life. Well, I've something more to say, which is this—and I'll run it off the reel though the line is wet. My wife and it have promisely the copy of the cook of the copy of the copy

" To the Gentleman wot wrote my Life."

Peter Purisy's Tales show the England, Ireland, Scotland, and Wales. (London, Tegg.)—An admirable child's book, in which the clever Peter Parley visits many interesting parts of the British empire (either personally, or from books); and gives most instructive and entertaining accounts of what is to be seen. The scientific addenda, though useful, are not directly either English, Irish, Scotch, or Welsh; seeing that barometers, thermometers, steam-engines, &c., &c., are now tolerably common in other countries.

other countries.

A Manual of Roman Antiquities, by T. S. Carr, one of the Classical Masters in King's College School. Pp. 467. London, Cadeli; Longman and Co.; Rivingtons, &c. &c.—This is an exceedingly well concected and useful manual, which the compiler has skilfully and judiciously adapted for reference and instruction to the middle classes in schools, and those above them. He seems to have consulted the latest authorities which have thrown light upon the antiquities of the Romans; and, notwithstanding the excellence of the last edition of Adams, has produced a

work which may well go side by side with that justly valued original.

Eight Sermons addressed to the Royal Regiment of Artillery, Woohteich, by the Rev. W. H. Henslowe, M.A., &c. &c. Pp. 184. (London, Hatchard and Son.)—It seems that the preaching of these sermon-cassys, as the writer demonstrates them, and especially the fourth and seventh, caused the preacher to be superseded. We shall not enter into the controversy, but must remark that topics are discussed such as are rarely, if ever, introduced into the regular pulpit.

Hand-book for Travellers on the Continent, being a Guide through Holland, Belgium, Prussia, Northern Germany, &c. &c. pp. 472. (London, Murray; Parls, Galignani; Leipsig, Black and Armstrong.)—With a good map, this is a capital guide. A man may traverse half the Continent of Europe by it, without asking questions; and when he returns home, and relates his sight-seeing, not be vexed to hear that he has missed some of the most interesting.

esting.

Letters of Runnymeds, pp. 234. (London, Macrone.)—
These powerful and eloquent political epistles have appeared in the Times newspaper during the session of Parliament, and are now collected in a more tangible form. They have created so much sensation, that we (avoiding politics) need hardly say they are of high Conservative principles, and are ascribed to the pen of Mr. D'Israell, jun.

## ORIGINAL CORRESPONDENCE.

MR. RUPPELL'S LOST EFFECTS FOUND, BUT NOT RESTORED.

Ox the 17th of June, 1834, the Russian brig Dimidoff, Captain Georgio Rudelich, was stranded on a shoal on the French coast, near St. Valery, not far from the mouth of the Somme, so that it could not be got afloat again, and all that could be done was to endeavour to save as much as possible of the cargo. That enlightened traveller in Egypt and Nubia, Dr. Edward Ruppell, had some chests on board this ship: they contained, among other things, a very fine telescope by Frauenhofer, in Munich, a most accurate sextant, by Schmalkalter, in London, and other valuable astronomical instruments, which he used in his many years' travels. They contained also part of the fruits of his travels, rare specimens of natural history, which he intended for the Senkenberg Museum, at Frankfort, and Egyptian antiquities for the public library of his native city. Among the latter, which were partly of the finest workmanship, and extraordinary rarity, was a sphinx of red granite, between three and four feet long, founded by the Egyptian King Osorgion; a figure of a priest, standing about a foot and a half high, upon the dedication of an obelisk; an Egyptian sepulchral monument, &c.; also a number of scarabæi, enamels, and other smaller objects; together with a number of gold coins. Our traveller recovered only a small portion of these articles; all the rest, it was affirmed, had been lost in the sea. This differed widely from the first intelligence received from one of the consuls at St. Valery, that the chests which were saved were partly, at least, in good condition; but it was very strange that the articles sent to Frankfort were, on the one hand, but little damaged by the sea-water, and, on the other hand, altogether of very small value. Thus, a small chest, which Dr. Ruppell had carefully secured in one of the larger ones, came in good condition to Frankfort, but plundered of all that part of its contents which was valuable: thus, of three large Egyptian scarabei of hard stone, the two were missing which were distinguished by beautiful hieroglyphics engraved on them; whereas the third, which was of less importance, was there. Thus, throughout, every thing that was of pecuniary value, as well the antiques as the astronomical instruments, seemed to have been carefully taken out, and no part came into the hands of the lawful owner. On his complaining of this disagreeable circumstance in a letter to Abbeville, he was called upon by the French board of customs, to lay before

the procureur du roi the proofs of these depre-

This summons he has, indeed, not complied with, nor could he do so; for how should he, who, when the ship was lost, was at the other side of the Alps, be able to prove depredations, if the authorities on the spot, under whose eyes the goods were saved, and who were afterwards rewarded for their care by the Emperor of Russia, could not prevent them? Dr. Ruppell has, indeed, never thought of having recourse to legal measures to recover his property, though he knows very well, for instance, in whose hands the Frauenhofer telescope is, which was so useful to him in Africa. The whole affair had been given up to oblivion, when a notice in the French papers, that in June, last year, some Phonician antiquities had been found on turning up the ground, near the mouth of the Somme, reminded Dr. Ruppell of the loss he had sustained at that spot. But what was the astonishment of himself and his friends, when, on the 9th of December, last year, the president of the Société Royale d'Emulation, at Abbeville, sent him, as a scientific novelty likely to interest Mr. Ruppell, on account of his studies in this department, a lithographic print, all the objects represented on which he immediately recognised to be taken from the antiques which he lost on the stranding of the Dimidoff! On this print there is a certificate of the president of the society, that the antiques represented on it were discovered on the 12th and 13th of June, 1835, at No-yelles, five feet under ground. Though the cheat who, in some way or other, must have been concerned in the matter, can no more be pointed out than the original thief, it seems necessary to make these facts known for the sake of truth, and thereby to spare antiqua-ries from being involved in inextricable difficulties, because, out of ignorance, some glass-coins, with Cufic inscriptions of the 14th century, which were packed up with Dr. Ruppell's collection of Egyptian antiquities, are announced to have been discovered at the same time, and, as well as the others, are represented in the print as Phœnician antiquities! May this affair, which is now cleared up, serve as a warning to antiquaries against similar deceptions practised by impostors.

#### ARTS AND SCIENCES. THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION.

As this meeting, so important to the interests of science, commences its proceedings on Mon-day week at Bristol, we presume our readers will be gratified to learn what arrangements have already been made to give it all the effi-cacy and éclat which have attended the preceding assemblages. These we have the pleasure

to lay before the public.

The activity of the officers and local council of the Association has been put to the trial of supplying, in a provincial city, the means of entertaining that great body of men of science who have now passed through the splendid hospitalities of four universities, and have to perform an equally useful, and perhaps not less brilliant, course among the other cities of the empire. Originating in York—a body of 350 zealous men-the British Association now contains ten times that number of members; and it is probable that on no future occasion can it be safely calculated that less than 1000 or 1200 persons will assemble at any meeting. It is, therefore, extremely gratifying to know that the beneficent visits of the Association may be looked for in many of our provincial towns, where the wealth acquired by industry will be dispensed with liberality in entertaining the

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furnish, with respect to rooms and other accommodation, all that can be reasonably desired, while the established reputation of her scientific institution, the beauty and interest of the neighbouring country, the proximity of the mining tracts of Cornwall, Wales, and Shropshire, &c., assure a numerous meeting of men really interested in theoretical and practical science.

The sections will be opened on Monday, the 22d of August; and the Council House has been fixed upon as the station where the members may be furnished with their tickets, on any day after the 15th of August. Candidates for admission must apply at a room of inquiry near: in this room arrangements will be made for answering all questions relating to lodgings, ordinaries, hours of meetings, &c. On the Members' tickets a plan of the situation of the sectional rooms will be engraved.

The General Committee will meet on Saturday, the 20th of August, to receive reports, and issue instructions for the conduct of the meeting. The evening meetings will be in the theatre - a room of sufficient dimensions, and so conveniently fitted as to accommodate at least 1600 persons with seats, exclusive of the gallery which communicates with the other parts of the house. The voice of even feeble speakers will be effective in this room. Ladies' tickets will be issued (to a limited number) for the evening meetings.

Persons who propose to offer communications to the sections should give notice of their intention to the general, local, or provisional secretaries at Bristol. All written communications should be sent to the provincial Secretary of the section to which they are offered. We understand that many of the former re-commendations of the committees of the Association will be answered by the production, at this meeting, of reports and researches undertaken at the request of the Association.

Officers of the Association for 1836.

President—Marquess of Landowne. Vice-Presidents—Rev. W. D. Conybear, Mr. J. S. Harford, Dr. Prichard. Secretaries of the Bristol Meeting—Mr. Hovendon, Dr. Daubeny. Treasurer of the Bristol Meeting—Mr. General Secretaries—Mr. Bally, Rev. W. V. Harcout. Assistant General Secretary—Professor Phillips. General Treasurer—Mr. J. Taylor.

Provisional Secretaries of Sections.

Provisional Secretaries of Sections.

A. Mathematical Science—Mr. F. Gerrard.

B. Chemistry—Mr. W. Herapath.

C. Geology—Mr. William Sanders, Mr. Stutchbury.

D. Zoology and Botany—Dr. Riley, Mr. Rootsey.

E. Medicine—Dr. Symonds.

F. Statistics—Mr. C. B. Fripp.

G. Mechanical Arts—Mr. Bunt, Mr. West.

The Ordinary will be provided in the large room of the Horticultural Society, where 500 persons can dine conveniently. It is probable that this number may be collected every day, provided the leading members make a point of attending; and we hope they will do so, for the incessant occupation in which they are involved, leaves them few other opportunities of joining in friendly and familar intercourse with their less distinguished brethren. With great pleasure we have learned that many of the earliest friends of the Association - who were present at its birth, and helped it into existence-have announced their intention of being present at the Bristol meeting; and seems to be no doubt that among the numerous assembly will be found a fair pro-portion of the scientific strength of our country. Many foreigners of distinction are also

THE EUPHRATES EXPEDITION. [THOUGH the public is acquainted with the main features of the late lamentable catas-

lovers of science. It is found that Bristol will trophe which has befallen the expedition, we are sure the following particulars will be read with no common feelings of interest. They are from an officer of great intelligence, to whose friendship we are indebted for the relief of strong personal apprehensions.—ED. L. G.]
You will have had the news of the loss of the

Tigris steamer long ere this reaches you. Still a little detail may not be unwelcome.

The navigation of the river was carried on in the upper and more difficult part by sending boats forward one day's journey, whose duty it was to sound and survey at the same time, always returning pilots to both steamers; but, from the castle of Erabar below Balis, this ystem was discontinued on account of the reat increase of facilities which the river offered to navigation. The Tigris, which drew one foot less water than the Euphrates, used. from the time we started together, to hold precedence; while the diving bell and flat boats were always sent off some hours previous to our starting. Under this happy organisation the navigation and survey of the river were both carried on at the same time with greater despatch and sufficient accuracy of detail, and the towns of Deir, Abou Serai, Mayerthein, were made places of friendly visitation, and the interesting sites of Thapsacus, Racca, Zenobia. Cercusium, and Salahiyat were examined, and until the 21st of May, not an incident had occurred to throw a film upon the enthusiasm which dwelt in every bosom, or over the excitement of a first navigation of a splendid river. passing through a country so little known.

On the day above mentioned the two steamers had left a wood station near Sālahīyat early in the morning, and proceeded in the usual order of succession down the river. Near mid-day the Euphrates approached the Tigris, where the commander of the expedition had, for the time being, taken up his abode to announce that her supply of wood was nearly exhausted. A few minutes afterwards some wood was observed piled upon the river's banks in the neighbourhood of an Arab village, and the steamers were brought round to try and make a purchase. This was accordingly effected; the Arabs were found willing; and in the interim of shipping the wood the crew had their dinners. It was about two o'clock when we again started in our course, the Tigris as usual leading the way. We had scarcely atthe cliffs and ruined castles of Cersate and Esra were before us-when a dense black cloud was observed moving across the desert from the west-north-west, and advancing in the teeth of the wind; as it approached it was found to consist in its base of huge lurid brown and red coloured masses of dust, which sucseded one another rapidly, breasting the wind n their onward progress and rising to a great

The Tigris made signals to bring to; and, taking advantage of a bank to the left, brought her head round. All was then calm. The Euphrates followed in her wake, and also brought her head round to the current, and approached the bank immediately behind the Tigris. At this moment the storm came down upon us, a dust and flower-impregnated hurricane. Both vessels were thrown against the bank with violence, the Euphrates at a more acute angle than the Tigris. In a moment her anchor was overhoard, and all hands at the chain cable. The Tigris was less fortunate; the same gust taking her in her stern, threw the head outwards; one man alone had time to get ashore, when she hurried past, during

the very thickest of the storm. The wind blew with a velocity which threatened destruction to every thing; the rain fell in torrents, the atmosphere was dark as midnight; and the river foamed with the fury of the tempest. About 800 yards below, she made another attempt to bring her head to the wind, but she took in water forward, and already began to sink at the bows. The helm was hard up; still she could not be brought to answer the call. The crew had been forced by the encroaching waters to the aft deck. Lieutenant Lynch reported her sinking; still nobody thought of quitting her. It was momentarily expected that she would ground and all hands would be saved; but the water continued to gain upon them, and officers and men were nearly up to their waist before they left the steamer, at a time when the storm was so dark that the river's bank, scarcely forty yards off, could not be distinguished. Much loss of life ensued from so many people leaving the vessel at the same time; those who could not swim, or had got entangled, endeavouring to obtain assistance by laying hold of the more active It pleased Providence that a few swimmers. out of the number of gallant beings wrecked in that day should reach the land, and among them our spirited commander, Colonel Chesney: with him, also, and much exhausted, came Lieutenant Lynch, Mr. Eden, R.N., Mr. Thomson, and Dr. Austin Staunton, and a few others. Among the lost were Lieutenant Cockburn, R.A., a truly amiable and excellent young man; Captain Lynch, of the Indian army; Mr. Yneof Saader, the interpreter; Corporal Clark; Mr. Struthers, engineer; four gunners of the Royal Artillery; one private of the Royal Sappers and Miners; five seamen, and five natives - in all twenty persons.

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An accident of this kind gave an opportunity for the display of much of that steadiness of conduct, which is almost a national characteristic. There was no anxious hurry; no precipitate acts, loud acclamations, or unnerved despondency. Every little act of duty was performed with alacrity and cheerfulness; and there was, throughout, that self-possession and intrepidity manifested, which takes away even

from the horror of death. An Almighty power, dispenser of all good and of all evil, was not forgotten. The life of so many of our companions had been taken away in a far-off land, on a Saturday. On the next day, Maltese, and even some Mussulmans, assembled at Divine service, when that beautiful and cheering portion of the Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians, which has been introduced into our burial service, was read by Captain Estcourt. The next day, having descended the river lower down, we were enabled to pay the last attentions to Mr. Saader; and, in the evening, the body of Moore floated up to the steamer. It was the same thing at Anara; and this almost momentary renewal of these melancholy scenes placed our commander, who has always risen in energy with every great difficulty, under most trying circum-stances, which have, indeed, occasioned no small portion of regret to us all.

It will be observed, that this disastrous accident has no more reference to the question of the navigation of the Euphrates than the loss of a steamer in the Long Reach of Gravesend would have with the navigability of the Thames. The existence of hurricanes in the Desert has been known since the days of Xenophon; but, certainly, although Colonel Chesney was once before upset in a small boat, on the banks did not remember one of so violent a character; and it is the same at the town of Annah.

With the exception of this event, the navigation of the Euphrates had commenced under the best auspices, and was going on most favourably. Deposits of lignite coal have been ascertained; wood abounds on the banks; nothing is wanted to propel the vessels which the country does not furnish at the most trifling expense. The Arabs have been courteous, civil, and well-intentioned, although not to be trusted by solitary travellers. The officers and crew here enjoy a degree of uninterrupted health, which was previously unknown among us; and the warmest feeling of friendship cemented the little band.

The survivors of the loss of the Tigris are on their way home; the expeditionists who still remain with the Euphrates are yet full of confidence and hope. Nothing, indeed, at this season of the year can be more clear or evident than the free and facile navigation of " the Great River." It would, then, be an injustice, of which I hope our country is incapable, to decide prematurely upon a question yet in abeyance; as it would be ungrateful to the commander, who has suffered so much in the cause which he has espoused, in any way to interfere to prevent the happy remuneration of his labours in a summer of content, which has made its way through a rough and rude spring full of clouds and rain.\*—Dated Annah, on the Euphrates, May 28.

#### ANCIENT AND MODERN MINING.

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Much curious information was afforded at a meeting of the shareholders of the West Cork Mining Company, held on the 3d instant at Salvador House, in the City, as to the manner in which the Danes obtained their copper at the time they frequented the British Islands. This was done by Inking shafts, or pits, of a few feet in depth, and applying the action of fire to the lode of ore in order to its fusion in the earth. In the workings of the company at Horse Island, in the county of Cork, several of these shafts have been explored; and, from the richness of the ore, and the extent of the lode, which is about 15 feet wide, it is the the knowledge of the Danes in mining opewhich is about 15 feet wide, it is evident that rations was upon the most limited scale. lode discovered in the largest excavation is composed of a slaty substance, intermixed with fluor spar, and abounds with an infinite number of small veins of the richest ore, so that it is scarcely possible to strike a pick into any part of the lode without finding the precious metal. It runs nearly due east and west; which, with other concomitant circumstances, is a pretty sure criterion of its continuance. The specimens raised from the shafts of which we have spoken, and which were produced at the meeting, were chiefly crystallised copper, and it was stated that a quantity was about to be shipped for Swansea, when its richness in bulk would be satisfactorily ascertained. Some very curious hammers and other instruments have been found, and also several brass pans. There are various traditions in the country as to these shafts, and which, together with the circum-stances here mentioned, would lead to the conclusion that they are even of an earlier date than the Danish period assigned to them. It is a historical fact, that the Carthaginians worked the tin mines in Cornwall. The Notium of

Since writing the above, we have had laid on our table, and now before us, a sample of Mineral from what is called the Danish shaft, on Horse Island, assayed by Messrs. Johnson and Sons at their Assay Office, and certified by them to have produced the extraordinary result of sixty-nine per cent of pure copper, and about fifty-four ounces of fine silver, in the ton of ore. The latter, even independently of the former, is so important, that, if the mass holds out in any proportion like it, we shall only say, several foreign mines will require little further experiment on their products.

#### ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

Aug. 1. W. W. Saunders, Esq. vice-president, in the chair .- Various donations of books were announced, and thanks ordered to be returned to the several donors thereof. Specimens of stems of asparagus were exhibited attacked by the larva of Crioceris asparagi, a small beetle, which has this season been exceedingly abundant, and which has committed considerable injury in some of the market-gardens round London, and especially at Sion House. The secretary read an extract from a letter from William Spence, Esq. F.R.S. &c. giving an account of the destruction of elm-trees in the public walks of Dunkirk, Calais, and Boulogne, by the Scolytus destructor, and upon the mea-sures which had been taken by the public authorities of those towns, at his suggestion, for destroying the insect and preventing an increase of the mischief. He also called the attention of the meeting to the great injury caused by the same insect to the elm-trees in Kensington Gardens; on the south side of which a great number of trees had been completely killed, the bark being bored through with an infinite number of their burrows. He considered it the duty of the Society to direct attention to this evil, which was rapidly spreading around London, and especially along the western road. The only memoir read contained descriptions of various new exotic insects, by J. O. Westwood, F.L.S. Several other communications were made to the Society by other members.

## LITERARY AND LEARNED.

MANUSCRIPTS OF ROGER BACON. Paris, August 7, 1836.

MR. Cousin yesterday made a verbal com-• The Lizard Point, on the Cornish coast, was the Octinum of the same geographer; and all around, the mines of Cornwall were wrought by the enterprising Pharmicians.—Ed. L. G.

munication to the Academy of Moral and Political Science, stating that he had just discovered some MSS. of great importance to-wards the history of the scholastic philosophy. They are the MSS. of the renowned Roger Bacon, a celebrated philosopher of the thirteenth century. He was a Franciscan monk, born in England, but passed almost all his life in France. He lived in the Convent of the Cordeliers; and he there suffered a long imprisonment, by order of the general of the Francis-can. This circumstance led Mr. Cousin to conjecture that there might be in France some MSS. of Roger Bacon, notwithstanding the silence of Montfauçon and other bibliographers. He has caused search to be made at Douay and St. Omer, where there were formerly English colleges. This search has proved successful. Hitherto we were acquainted only with the first letter addressed by Roger Bacon to Clement IV.; and which Bacon has entitled Opus Majus. Clement IV. patronised Bacon, and had asted him for some information respecting the state of learning in the thirteenth century. Having received no answer to his first letter, R. Bacon drew up a second essay, which he addressed to the pope under the title of Opus Minus. These cond letter remaining unanswered like the first, Bacon revised his work, and addressed to the pope a third letter, which he called Opus Tertium. The Opus Majus was published at London in 1820. There is in England a copy of the Opus Minus, and it has hitherto been supposed, that there was no other. Mr. Cousin has just discovered at Douay a MS., which contains a considerable fragment of it. He does not think the work to be of much importance. It is not the same with the Opus Tertium, which may be considered as the last work of Roger Bacon, and of which Mr. Cousin has just discovered a MS., which is the only one in Europe. He has, besides, very recently discovered at Amiens, another MS. of Bacon's, of which nobody expected the existence. It is "Questions on the Physics and Metaphysics of Aristotle." three MSS., on which Mr. Cousin is preparing a memoir, will throw much light on the history of scholastic philosophy; and we shall learn whether Roger Bacon really was, as has been affirmed, the inventor of the telescope, the microscope, and gunpowder; a question which it has hitherto been impossible to decide, for want of authentic documents.

## ORIGINAL POETRY.

THE KAYSER'S THREE QUESTIONS. From Burger's Ballads.

'TIS a right merry tale of the old German day, Of a kayser so wilful, so wanton and gay, And an abbot as stately as stately might be, And his shepherd, the wisest, shame on't, of the three.

The kayser through heat and through cold stoutly went,

And often lay harness'd all night in his tent; On black broth and black puddings could

cheerfully sup,
Without bread to his table, or wine to his cup. Better fared the proud abbot, by night and by

day So richly he fed, and so softly he lay; Like the full moon, his comely round visage gleam'd out, [compass about. O'er a paunch which three men scarce could

'Twixt this kayser and abbot full oft was there soft life. strife-Ill brook'd the stern soldier the churchman's

\* We rejoice to see that Parliament has granted a further sum of 8000l. to the expedition.—ED, L.G.

the extent of their power was not anticipated. Ptolemy, or Mizen Head,\* is but a few leagues It is to be remarked, that the oldest inhabitant distance from Horse Island; and as the whole district, of which that island forms part, is one bed of mineral riches, it is not likely have been overlooked by that enterprising people. Another copper mine is now in work by the company, distant three miles from Horse Island, where the ore which is raised is also of an exceeding richness; and which, upon assay, has been found to contain 35 per cent of pure The place where this mine is situated, is called Ballydehob, or, in Irish, the Town of Gold. It is scarcely necessary to add, that the meeting separated highly satisfied with the state of the Company's affairs, and an unanimous vote to that effect was passed. We, in common with all who desire the improvement of Ireland in particular, as a main feature of national welfare, wish well to the prosperity of an undertaking which must needs, in its operations, largely benefit the surrounding population, by furnishing employment and adequate remuneration. Such we have ever maintained would be the best remedy for the evils which afflict this superb island.

Now, it chanced, in the noon of a hot summer's day, [array, When the kayser rode forth with his warlike His knights and his nobles, the abbey he past; And a glance and a scowl on the abbot he cast, Who, in the wide bounds of that abbey so fair

('Twas St. Gall's lordly abbey), was taking the

"Well met, man of God!"- and straightway to his side, [ride; With flont and with jeer, does he scoffingly "At fasting and prayer, 'faith, none now need repine,

Who sees how they make godly faces to shine. Yet, methinks, 'twere small damage, if I, to beguile while,

From these saintly labours thy thoughts for a A task on thy wisdom and wit should now lay, Who, of all men alive, art the wittiest, they

Three nuts to thy reverend teeth, then, I give, In three months to crack them; or else, as I live,

Unfrock'd, on an ass, shalt thou ride round the land.

And hold for a bridle the tail in thy hand.

First, when I shall sit, in full hall, on my throne, [crown,

With all my rich gawds, with my sceptre and Then shalt thou appraise me, both fairly and well. And my price, to a farthing, to me shalt thou

Next, sure to so learned a clerk but a jest, I make it my sovereign command and behest, That thou, to a second, compute and decide The time in which I round the wide world may

And thirdly, thou must, and that right to a hair.

My thoughts at the moment I ask thee declare; If thou'rt right I will frankly confess it, in sooth, But of all I then think not a thought must be truth."

The kayser, loud laughing, rides back to his train,

And leaves the lord abbot to cudgel his brain; And his brain, by'r lady, he cudgelled and bang'd

Looking much like a caitiff about to be hang'd Universities three he called in to his aid,

And doctors of faculties largely he paid; But though widely he scattered his silver and gold, [fold. Not a man might the kayser's three riddles un-

The months shrunk to weeks, and the weeks shrunk to days, And the abbot around him did wistfully gaze;

Ere the term be expired, can there no one be found

Who the kayser's hard questions may rightly expound?

Worn down to a shadow, his rubicund face Pale with watching and musing, he seeks a lone place,

His fate to bemoan; where, by good luck, he found [ground. His shepherd, Hans Bendic, outstretch'd on the

" Holy father! what ails thee?" dismay'd at the sight, Cries Bendic, "I'm moved to behold thy sad

Saints! that ever ill fortune or loss should befall

My master, the abbot of lordly St. Gall."

"Ah! little reck'st thou," the sad abbot replies, " Honest Hans, the sore burden upon me that

The kayser, our liege lord, hath set me a task, Which to deal with, Beelzebub's cunning might

First, when in full hall he shall sit on his throne, With all his rich gawds, his sceptre and crown, I am then to appraise him, both fairly and well, And his worth to a farthing to him I'm to tell. Next, and this to my clerkship he swears is a jest

He makes it his sovereign command and behest, That I to a second compute and decide

The time in which he round the wide world may ride.

And, thirdly, I must, and that right to a hair, His thoughts at the moment he asks me declare; If I'm right he will own it-but, then, in good sooth.

Of that he then thinks not a jot must be truth. "No more!" cries Hans Bendic, "by the rood, then, there's hope, and cope. If thou 'It lend me thy hood, and thy crosier

Cheer up! Though of Latin he knows ne'er a line, Hans Bendic the kayser's three knots shall

For gladness the abbot leap'd up like a roe; To the court did Hans Bendic full willingly go, Trick'd out, like a prelate of lordly degree, With cape, cap, and crosier, most gorgeous to see.

There sate the proud kayser on high on his throne,

throne,
With his royal apparel, his sceptre and crown:
"Now tell me, lord abbot, now tell me, I pray,
"Thing this day." My worth in thine eyes, to a farthing, this day. " For thirty poor pieces Christ Jesus was sold,

To rate thee aught higher methinks were too bold; Twenty-nine silver pieces thy worth I declare,

Nor will grant a doit more to thy chiding or prayer."

"Thou art right," quoth the kayser; "though never till now.

My princely estate did I value so low; 'Tis a thought which should humble all pomp and all pride;

But come-no delay-the next question decide : To an hour and a second the time I would know, In which I round the world on my good steed

may go. Such reckoning, I trow, to a clerk is a jest. If not, 'tis my sovereign command and behest."

"Tis a question, my liege, framed to puzzle the And yet I dare promise," keen Bendic replies;

"That if on your horse you ride round with [done." the sun, In just twenty-four hours your course shall be

" Ha!" shouted the kayser, " St. Jude! we should speed, If on ifs and on buts we our horses could feed;

The man, by my troth, who such fodder found out krout. To gold, if he pleased, could have turned sour

But now, sans an if or a but, thou must tell My thoughts at this moment - and look to it well:

For the ass is awaiting, that thee through the [hand." land. If thou errest, shalt bear with his tail in thy

"That I am St. Gall's lordly abbot, thou deem'st."
"Right," answer'd the kayser; "such surely

thou seem'st.'

Upsprung then the kayser, and wonder-struck [eyes? "What! may we not trust to our own princely hov

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Is it not, then, St. Gall's lordly abbot we see? Marry, so from this hour shall all men call thee." "Nay, nay," quoth the shepherd, "my liege

lord, not so, [know; Since no line, or of breviar or mass-book, I And he who with Latin my gray head should I die would win." Small thanks for great pains, from Hans Ben.

"Thou art right," said the prince, "yet 'twere meet at my hand, [demand; Fit guerdon for this day's good sport thou Crave boldly some boon, for I swear to fulfil, By Mary! thy wish, be that wish what it will."

Answer'd Hans, " Since with gifts thou needs must repay, [this day;

The sport which my poor wits have made th The boon that I crave, it is this, and no more, That thou frankly, my master, to favour restore."

"Well said, honest fellow, full clearly we see That thy heart with thy head doth in soundness agree;

Thou shalt in broad lands thy due recompense take, And we pardon the abbot, thy lord, for thy

Free from scath or disgrace, let what will befall, He shall live the lord abbot of wealthy St. Gall, His vigils and prayers we no more will molest, Till he pass like all saints to his heavenly rest."

## DRAMA.

English Opera-house.—The Mountain Sylph has been revived, with Miss Shireff as Eolia; and we need not add, that nothing can surpass her song in beauty and feeling. House Room, a new farce, has also been produced; in which Wrench, Major Slenderpurse is in his Jeremy Diddler glory. The whole is a most lively and laughable concern.

The Strand makes no alterations, and needs none. The Bill-sticker rises in popularity; and, in truth, for those who love burlesque acted to perfection, we could recommend nothing better than Hercules, except Othello. Mr. Hammond grows upon the London audiences, as he has made them acknowledge his talent, and, consequently, feels his power to please more certain of producing its effects.

The Colosseum, with its varied entertainments, also continues to afford great pleasure among the few places of public amusement now open for our recreation. On Tuesday next, we see, Braham ipse is to augment the attractions, by appearing as Tom Tug; but then it is for the benefit of that gifted creature, Miss Allison, whose own acting in Have you seen my Party, is quite sufficient for a bumper, to encourage her in her youthful but most promising professional efforts.

## VARIETIES.

Persian Princes. — Our notice of the por-traits of these interesting personages and their hurried and secretary, last week, was more short than the subject deserved; and it is curious to remark the difference between Turkish and Persian feelings in this respect, as alluded to in another of our Varieties. royal youths are the first of their dignity who Tis false then, my liege, and I tell thee no have ever visited England; another indication lie, [am I."] of the great changes operating in our times. When I tell thee, Hans Bendic, his shepherd, At Mivart's Hotel they seemed quite at home, Fountain Court as if they had been in the gardens of Shiraz, where Hafiz sung. They are about to return to Persia, we believe, and if they carry away as good impressions of our country as Minasi in these portraits has pre-served of them, there will be nothing to regret in their long journey to see a land so strangely subjects. unlike their own.

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Right Hon. H. Ellis. - And connected with this, we rejoice to observe, that Mr. Ellis, already so highly esteemed in our literature, has arrived at Constantinople, in his way home from his important embassy to Persia. We hope that, besides the national political benefits which we learn his diplomacy has secured, we may look for an accession of no small interest to our literary stores from his justly admired

The Poor Ladies, after being mocked with the belief that they were to be admitted to witness the efforts of members in the House, have been baulked at the last moment on the money-vote for 400% to provide for their acmoney-vote for 400. to provide for their accommodation. The numbers were 42 for petticats, 28 against them. Apropos, we trust, nevertheless, that the subscription for a piece of plate to their champion, Mr. Berkeley, will go on; and at least a silver jug reward his gallanty. The author of "Berkeley Castle" has, we see, had enough on his hands; first assaulting and thrashing a publisher, and then fighting the writer of a magazine article. Fire and fury! one feels hardly safe amid such mêlées. Record Office.—The House of Commons have

voted 34,000% for the expenses of the Record

Office during the ensuing year.

School of Design. — For the establishment of a School of Design, in connexion with manufactures, 15001 were voted; a beginning which, if well carried on, will probably lead to valuable results.

British Museum. - After some remarks, 9250% were also voted to defray the purchase of the Dutch etchings, which we recently described and recommended in the Literary Gazette; some vases bought in Paris; and the MS. Bible lately offered for sale at Mr. Evans's. This is as it should be, were it only ten times

Steam Intercourse between England and India, by way of the Red Sea, has recently India, by way of the Red Sea, has recently been discussed by friends to a regular establishment of packets in this way, and Sir John Hobbouse on the part of government. To us it appears marvellous, with such an empire at such a distance, and such wealth and enterprise in the mother country, that every possible means of rapid and frequent intercourse should not be tried. not be tried.

Immense Lobster .- The Brighton Gazette mentions a lobster caught on that coast, of the extraordinary weight of 94 lbs. It was a yard long, from the extremity of the feelers to the extremity of the tail; 22 inches from the nose to the tail; 16 inches round, and the claws finds a long and 0 in inches round. 6 inches long and 9 in girth.

Fossil Remains.—The perfect impression of a fish, 27 inches long and 13 broad, has been found 20 feet down in the freestone quarry of Clagbennie, near Edinburgh. It appears to be regularly mailed over like the crocodile, and is a remarkably fine specimen of a species yet to be ascertained.

Discouragement of Art .- A letter from Constantinople, in the Times newspaper, states, that great popular discontent is excited in Turkey, by the encouragement given to paint-

however; and to delight as much in his little ed sacrilegious in Moslem countries; and it has only been, in secret, that likenesses of Sultans and Sultanas have been taken and preserved. The present ruler, it seems, has gone openly into this, among other Christian and European customs; and thus given great offence to the strictly religious and bigotted portion of his

#### LITERARY NOVELTIES.

LITERARY NOVELTIES.

M. Paul de Kock.—We have just received the following letter, touching an author whose concerns must interest and be the concern of every literary person. We therefore present it to our readers:—"Sir, by a judgment of the Cour Royale of Paris, a tedious and expensive lawauit, in which M. Paul de Kock was, in the first instance, successful, has been unexpectedly decided against him; and that celebrated author is not only reduced to sudden destitution by the costs of the award, but, in being forbidden the right to publish a complete collection of his numerous Works, deprived of the hope to repair his loss from the resources of his own industry and genius. Under circumstances so cruel and unforeseen, and in the full reliance both on the generosity of the British public, and the sympathy which unites the cultivators of literature in either country, it is proposed to open a subscription at Messrs. Ransoms', Pall Mall East, on behalf of the Smollet of France. I am, &c., A. Cte D'Orasy." It does Count D'Orasy great honour to have taken the lead in this matter; and we beg to assure him of our hearty co-operation in promoting the laudable object he has in view.—ED. L. G.

Mr. T. Noble has issued a Prospectus of Recollections and Reflections of a Public Writer in his Sixty-fifth year; and urges old age, infirmities, and want, as strong pleas for encouragement.

Mr. Bentley, we observe, has announced Memoirs of the late Baron Rothschild, with a portrait.

Also, by Mr. King, the Naturalist, who accompanied Captain Back; a Narrative of the Voyage to the Shores of the Polar Sea, with the Natural History attached to it.

Major Skinner's Adventures during his Travels over-land to India.

#### In the Press.

Sayings worth Hearing; and Secrets worth Knowing; partly original, and partly selected. Illustrated by Cruik-shank, and the late Robert Seymour.—British Flora Me-dica. Part V. By B. H. Barton, and T. Castle.

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Saturday	6	****	54		67	30.02		30.06
Sunday	7	****	46		70	30-11		Staty.
Monday	8	****	50		72	30.08		30-09
Tuesday	9	****	44		69	30.11		Staty.
Wednesday	10		42		72	30-11		30.10
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